

Miners threaten Ravenscraig's iron ore supplies

By Barrie Clement and Ronald Faux

Militant miners yesterday threatened to starve the beleaguered Ravenscraig steelworks of iron ore after convoys of coal lorries evaded 1,000 pickets by using a rear entrance.

After a day of violence in which 31 pickets were arrested, leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers are to approach the train drivers' union, Aslef, urging it to extend sympathy action.

Earlier, there were 23 arrests at Hunterston as pickets tried to prevent the convoy from leaving.

Ravenscraig has become the focal point of the miners' action since the split in the so-called triple alliance of rail, steel and coal unions over how much coal the plant requires to prevent permanent damage to coke ovens. The steelmen say it needs two trainloads, the miners say one.

After clashes outside the plant, Mr Mick McGahey, Scottish president of NUM, left for talks with Aslef saying: "We are pleased at the show of strength, but there will be more to come."

"We are going to increase picketing and we will be calling for assistance from Northumberland, Durham and Yorkshire."

Meanwhile, in a May Day rally at Mansfield, Mr Arthur Scargill, union president, called on the rail unions to extend their proposed action over pay into an all-out stoppage in alliance with the miners.

At Ravenscraig, however, the fragility of the labour movement's solidarity was exposed as the heaviest picketing yet failed to stop lorry drivers taking "black" coal into the works.

Mr Emlyn Williams, president of the South Wales area, is confident he can persuade his members to change their minds and allow coke deliveries to the plant. That will ensure furnace linings do not crack.

One policeman suffered a suspected broken collar bone and several pickets were led away bleeding.

But when miners were confronting the police outside the main gate, 29 lorries, carrying coal from the Hunterston terminal in Ayrshire, were passing through the poorly-guarded rear entrance.

Mr Hattersley told 600 pickets at Seaham, Durham, that he had been advised that arguing the miners' case had damaged the labour movement. But he and other party leaders would continue to voice support because the case was just.

The pit strike received the full backing yesterday of Mr Roy Hattersley, the Labour Party's deputy leader, but he added that to win they must get public support.

Later a second convoy of 29 lorries swept past a dozen forlorn pickets.

Now pitmen's leaders are calling for an even bigger picket today, requesting reinforcement from colleagues in the north of England.

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Tomorrow

Death...
Caroline Moorehead reports on children in the world's front lines... or glory.
"Miracles are always a problem," Spectrum meets the saint-makers.



Earning...
The film industry: where the money comes from. A two-page Special Report.

Spurs
Stuart Jones previews Tottenham Hotspur's UEFA Cup final first leg match in Brussels.

Findings on island crash in a month

The magistrate investigating the Majorca coach crash which killed eight British tourists and a Spanish courier said it would be at least a month before he declared his findings and proposed any charges.

Pound down to \$1.386

US dealers pushed the dollar to a record high against the pound in volatile trading, Sterling dropped to \$1.386 in American markets.

\$250m deal

Seven US chemical companies agreed to set up a \$250m fund to settle claims by Vietnam veterans affected by Agent Orange defoliant.

Royal murder

Police are treating as murder the death of Prince Edward, Duke of Windsor, whose body was found washed up with gunshot wounds on the banks of the Seine.

Exams plea

Teachers in Britain's third largest teaching union have asked colleagues to promise to protect pupils facing public examinations from the effects of action over pay.

Test-tube births

Research is being carried out at a London hospital which could lead to the avoidance of multiple births of test-tube babies such as the quadruplets born last week.

Paisley warning

The Rev Ian Paisley has threatened strong Unionist resistance to any plan for joint London-Dublin authority over particular areas of Ulster life.

Naples quake

A strong earthquake shook Naples violently and sent light shock waves throughout Central Italy yesterday, but there were no immediate reports of damage or injuries.

Moscow calls

The Russians have partly restored direct telephone dialling from Western Europe to Moscow after a two-year gap.

Four-goal Rush

Liverpool made almost certain of the League championship by beating Coventry City 5-0. Rush scored four goals to break a Roger Hunt record.

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Letters: On education, from Mr D. Emms, and Professor G. Williams; cable firms, from Mr P. Haggard and others; tax rates, from Mrs M. Woolley.

Features, pages 10, 11, 14

Making the universities cost-efficient; public v private, the widening pay gap; when charity bites the bullet; Spectrum: an interview with Saul Bellow. Fashion: going Stateside. Computers, pages 21-23. Compuspeak doomed: a plea for print-outs, m'lud; the technology challenge for Sir Michael Edwards. Obituary, page 16. Dr J. C. Smith, Mr William Colman.

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Foot tells of 'resign' demands

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Michael Foot seriously considered resigning as Labour leader before last June's general election, in which Labour suffered one of its worst defeats.

Alliance focuses on Thatcher style

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Liberal/Social Democratic Party Alliance, yesterday made Mrs Margaret Thatcher's personal style of government and the damage that the Alliance alleges it has caused to Britain's interests in the European Community a central issue in the campaign for the elections to the European Parliament on June 14.

In his keenly awaited book, about the general election, to be published next month, Mr Foot is expected to describe the pressures on him from party colleagues and trade union leaders to step down because of his apparent unpopularity with the voters, and his reasons for resisting those pressures.

Mr Steel told the candidates: "We are faced with a short-sighted government which seems incapable of rising above its narrow and nationalistic preoccupations with the budgetary balance."

In his analysis of the poll defeat, Mr Foot, who was succeeded by Mr Neil Kinnock last September, concedes that at the time after Mrs Margaret Thatcher called the election did Labour have a realistic chance of winning. Its main hope was that it would narrow the huge gap with the Tories and was shocked by its failure to do so.

Mr Steel, who is in charge of the Alliance's European campaign, said there was a constituency of former Conservative voters "who are starting to rebel against the style and content of this Government."

He still regards Mr Callaghan's failure to take an equally strong line over the Government's handling of arms control talks with the Soviet Union.

Dr Owen remarked: "There has been too much naked nationalism in British politics in recent years, fuelled by the style of the present Government."

Although many Labour MPs and Shadow Cabinet members apparently wanted Mr Foot to stand down, particularly at the time of his devastating reversal in the Barnsley by-election, it is clear that few told him so to his face.

He spoke of the feeling that Mrs Thatcher was the only one who never makes an error. "That is the reason why the other countries in the community might find it difficult to deal with her. She is always right and they are always wrong."

A report that one who did was Mr Jeffrey Rooker, Labour MP for Birmingham, Perry Barr and a front-bench spokesman on Treasury affairs, was confirmed yesterday by The Times.

Mr Rooker's suggestion was made at a meeting between two men in late 1982.

The book will apparently confirm that during the 1983 campaign Mr Gerald Kaufman also suggested that Mr Foot should stand down.

Under Mr Gemayel's latest offer, Mr Berri would be given the State Ministry for South Lebanon and for reconstruction in addition to the previously announced Ministry of Justice, Water and Electricity.

Ayatollah's dress order upsets London bank girls

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

British women working in Iran's biggest bank in London have been enraged by an attempt to force them to conform to Ayatollah Khomeini's fundamentalist tastes in female clothing.

Women employed at the Bank Mellat in the City have been told that if by today they do not adopt the "modest attire" commensurate with the principles of Islam, they will be sent home.



Most of the 50 female staff are British and "quite irate" at the bank's order, said Mr John Townsend, negotiating officer for the Banking Insurance and Finance Union yesterday.



The Pope meeting a colourful tribesman at Port Moresby.

Later date urged for May Day

The English Tourist Board said yesterday that the May Day holiday should be moved to June or September because too many Bank holidays fall together.

Pope speaks Pidgin to greet Papuans

From Jim Oram, Port Moresby

In the steamy heat of a Port Moresby twilight, the Pope delighted a welcoming crowd of 10,000 on his arrival from South Korea yesterday when he spoke in three languages known throughout Papua New Guinea.

In Pidgin he said: "My brothers and sisters, beloved people of Papua New Guinea, I love you. I am happy to be with you in your own country. Today is a day of great joy for me."

In Motu, the language of the Port Moresby area, he said: "From ancient times your ancestors have inhabited this land and loved its beauty, and I am happy to be here with you today. I come as your friend, I come as your brother."

And in English, he said: "As you know, this is not the first time that I have set foot on your land. Over 10 years ago, when I was still Archbishop of Krakow, I already had the pleasure of being in your midst."

"I still remember well the beauty of the landscape and the warmth of your hospitality. I recall, too, the rich diversity of your citizens, how you are composed of many different tribes, each with its own history and traditions."

The crowd bellowed its approval. The Kandou drums did the same, echoing round the hills surrounding Jackson's airport.

The Pope had the people in his hands from the moment he stepped out of his Alitalia DC10.

According to the RAC traffic to the south coast resorts of Brighton, Eastbourne, Worthing and Hastings was no heavier than normal weekend.

The International Garden Festival at Liverpool was crowded on both Sunday and Monday, and there are early signs that financial targets will easily be beaten.

The Castle Howard stately home in Yorkshire was very busy, with three-mile traffic queue.

In Wales the Welsh mountain zoo at Colwyn Bay took record receipts.

The expansion of Mr Berri's Cabinet role was expected to clear the way for the participation in the new Government of Mr Walid Jumblat, the Druse leader.

The palace announcement came after week of negotiations by the President and Mr Rashid Karami, the newly appointed Prime Minister, aimed at getting Mr Berri to join the Cabinet.

Major D'Aubuisson has pledged to accept it, withdrawing charges of vote-rigging, which may persuade his more extreme supporters against taking bloody retribution.

In the other Latin American presidential polls, Señor Leon Febres Cordero, the conservative millionaire, has claimed victory in Ecuador and both candidates in Panama, where counting continues, believe they have won.

Señor Febres Cordero beat the favourite Social Democrat, Señor Rodrigo Borja, and pledged to rescue the oil-rich nation from a severe economic slump.

Full story, page 6

El Salvador victory for Duarte

Señor Napoleón Duarte has won the presidential election by a smaller margin than expected.

With 70 per cent of the vote counted, he leads with 55 per cent to the 45 per cent of his right-wing rival, Major Roberto D'Aubuisson. Although the result is not official, it is beyond doubt.

Three die and four missing at sea

Three people died and four fishermen were feared dead in three separate incidents off the east and Cornish coast yesterday.

The fishermen, including a father and son, were missing after a boating accident off the east coast. A teenager was swept out to sea at Scarborough and off the Cornish coast, two brothers drowned in a fishing tragedy. Bad sea conditions hampered both rescue attempts by lifeboat services off the east coast.

The fishermen were hauling in crab pots in their 33ft boat, Carol Sandra, half a mile off Flamborough Head when it capsized. Two holidaymakers noticed the smell of diesel, looked over the cliff top and saw the vessel foundering.

Lifeboats and fishing vessels from Bridlington, Filey and Flamborough, and a helicopter from RAF Leconfield spent yesterday searching the area. Wreckage from the cockpit and a number of buoys were recovered. There were four men aboard, and their names are being withheld until their families have been told.

Five men fell overboard while taking part in the search, but were rescued by helicopter. Lifeboats and a helicopter from the same rescue services recovered the body of a teenage boy, who was believed to have been swept out to sea after climbing the Scarborough sea wall. A lifeboat searched the body was found by the inshore lifeboat near the pier, 300 yards from where he disappeared. Last night, the boy, aged 16 to 18, had not been identified.

Two brothers drowned on a fishing expedition at Portholow on the Lizard peninsula yesterday. Mr Timothy Raley, aged 23, fell into the sea after apparently striking his head while trying to retrieve his rod.

A police spokesman said that his brother, David, aged 20, raised the alarm, dashed to tell another man nearby, and while he rang 999, David went into the sea to try to rescue his brother.

The body of Timothy, who lived in Treloweth Road, Pool, Cornwall, was recovered by helicopter, and the search for that of David, who lived with his parents in Mill Lane, Helston, Cornwall, was not resumed.

The Carol Sandra left Bridlington at 5am. Walkers on the cliff at Flamborough Head spotted the upturned hull at lunchtime.

The Coastguard spokesman said: "Pieces of wreckage have been found close to Flamborough Head. It looks as if the Carol Sandra bashed against the bottom of the cliffs and disintegrated."

The Flamborough lifeboat had to be towed back to Bridlington after developing engine trouble. Winds in the area were gusting at 20 to 25 knots.

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Crash coach tyres are inspected as island magistrate starts inquiry

From Richard Wigg, Palma

The magistrate investigating the Majorca coach crash, in which eight British tourists were killed and 15 were seriously injured, said yesterday it will be at least a month before he can declare his findings and propose any charges of criminal responsibility.

The 34 survivors of Saturday's pre-dawn crash were said by doctors late yesterday to be progressing satisfactorily, except two who are seriously ill with multiple injuries.

The condition of Mr Roger Brichford, from Wellingborough, Northamptonshire, and Mr Peter Marshall, from Coventry, who are on artificial ventilation, was described only as stationary.

Six of the fifteen who were badly hurt were taken off the serious list yesterday.

Señor Antonio Perello, the magistrate in Manacor, said: "The investigation must go slowly because we are trying to establish responsibility for the crash."

He was awaiting an expert's report requested from the Madrid School of Engineers on the condition of the coach's

tyres, which police say may have had a blow-out.

The police have suggested that the Spanish-made Pegaso coach then plunged off the narrow bridge because the driver had lost control.

Speaking for the first time from his bed in Palma's Son Dureta Hospital on the Mallorca television news yesterday, Señor Antonio Vidal, the professional driver of the coach, insisted the cause was mechanical failure.

He denied a suggestion that he had been overworking or might have dozed off momentarily just before the crash. The magistrate has yet to question the driver.

The magistrate said yesterday he also had to examine the state of the coach hired by Horizon Holidays, of Birmingham, which according to its owners, was new from the manufacturer's test and entered service at the end of last month.

Señor Carlos Martín Plasencia, Majorca's civil governor, when tackled on the same news programme whether some island coach drivers did not overwork during the holiday season,

replied that the laws governing their hours were strict.

He refused to endorse any theory of the cause until the investigations are finished.

The governor, who represents the socialist Government in Madrid, is now involved in a controversy with Majorca's autonomous regional government over the accident and the transfer of responsibility for the condition of the Balearic Islands' roads.

Majorca was one of the few new autonomous regions that the socialists did not win in last year's elections and now has a right-wing coalition government.

Majorca's councillor responsible for negotiating the transfer of responsibilities with the central government has blamed Madrid for the delay, which, he said, prevented attention to the road bridge for this season.

The mayor of the area where Saturday's accident occurred had asked in February for Madrid to give priority to widening the bridge.

Yesterday Horizon's chairman Mr Bruce Tanner, was due to fly out.

Another casualty returns

The second crash casualty, Mr Percy Oxley, aged 45, from Doncaster, South Yorkshire, who received a fractured jaw and vertebrae, returned from Palma to Leeds-Bradford airport.

His wife, Elizabeth, aged 43, was killed in the accident.

Mrs Mary Gates, aged 32, from Letchworth, who was flown home on Sunday, was operated on yesterday at Pinehill Hospital, Hitchin, Hertfordshire. She received a broken jaw, dislocated shoulder and two broken ribs in the accident. Her condition was said to be fairly comfortable.

Her husband Michael, aged 35, was killed.

Everyone on the tour was insured. Horizon does not accept holidaymakers without adequate travel insurance.

Under the standard policy, £15,000 is paid out in the case of death, and £15,000 for the loss of use of an eye, limb, or total disablement.

For a child under 15, £1,000 is the maximum.

There is a £100,000 limit for the cost of medical care.

Mr Keith Purdom, Horizon operations director, said that discussions had been held yesterday about insurance. The company hoped to minimize the administrative problems. Normally a valid claim took about ten days to process.

Seatbelts should be fitted, expert says

An expert on coach design whose daughter was killed in the crash called yesterday for the installation of passenger seatbelts.

Mr Peter Windsor-Smith, former chief engineer of Daimler Transport Vehicles, said: "From television film it is quite clear that all the seats remained in position in the crash, but unless people are wearing a seatbelt, they can be catapulted to the front of the bus or even fly out of the window."

"What is needed is a car or aircraft-type belt. Of course, some people may want to walk up or down a bus but the law should insist on belts at dangerous sections of the road, or on motorways when buses or coaches travel at great speeds."

Mr Windsor-Smith, aged 62, from Woodhouse Eaves, Leicestershire, left the company in 1971 to set up his own business.

His daughter, Miss Susanna Windsor-Smith, aged 19, died, and her fiancé, Mr Mark Gamble, aged 25, from Houghton-on-the-Hill, Leicestershire, was seriously injured.

No country in Europe has installed seat belts in coaches.

They are opposed on two grounds: that passengers will object or forget to wear them, and that they are not effective.

Mr Dennis Quin, director general of the Bus and Coach Council, said that the best restraint was the seat in front, and these were designed to take very strong forces.

He said that Britain and Hungary had the strictest regulations for coaches.

But the Economic Commission for Europe, part of the United Nations, and to which Spain is a signatory, is examining bus and coach safety.

A working group has studied stability, roof strength, seat mountings, and maximum weights and loadings. It is up to each signatory to implement recommendations.

The group aims to draw up test rules or criteria for the bodyshell of coaches by the end of this year.

Mr Quin said several improvements had been made recently, but none appeared relevant to the Spanish accident. The roof strength of coaches had been improved, but not even an inch-high steel plate roof could have protected the Spanish coach, if, as reported, it had fallen from between 40 and 90ft.

He said that more rigid windows would obviously be stronger, but sometimes they were the only means of escape.

Stability was not in question in the accident, he said.



Fund-raisers: Anna Ford with her daughter Claire and George the Clown opening a fête yesterday to raise money for the Log Cabin adventure playground for the disabled at West Ealing, west London. (Photograph: Ros Drinkwater).

Hunt after sex attack on boy

The police were searching yesterday for a man who dragged a boy aged nine, into some empty flats, strangled him and sexually assaulted him.

The attacker, with the words, "Big Arthur", on his black leather jacket, had approached the boy as he played in the road in Slough, Berkshire.

The police are also seeking a man calling himself "The Rat", who telephoned them shortly after the attack claiming in a slurred voice to have information.

Electricity board in £6m rebate move

By David Young

The London Electricity Board is hoping to trim its rates bill by £6m a year and pass the saving on to customers.

The board hopes the Government accept an amendment, now being put to the House of Lords, under which the system of charging electricity boards rates will be changed.

Since the early 1950s the 12 area electricity boards in England and Wales, of which the London Electricity Board has always been the largest, have paid rates on overhead lines, transformer stations and

underground cables on a shared system based on market share.

However, as London has gradually lost its large industrial customers, the area boards, particularly in the southern and eastern regions have grown. The formula for charging local authority rates has remained unchanged.

The London board, which has a marginally higher tariff because of larger overheads, is trying to have the statutory rules governing the electricity supply industry changed so that the rates can be more fairly shared.

Minor roads seriously neglected report says

By Michael Bailey
Transport Editor

Britain's minor roads are being seriously neglected although they make up the greater part - nearly 300,000 out of 345,000 kilometres of the national road network, according to an report by the country's highway engineers.

It would take more than a century to repair them properly at present rates of progress, the Institute of Municipal Engineers says, but long before then many will have suffered total collapse.

Heavy lorries are the main culprits, and unlike on motorways and major roads, the problems they cause are not being dealt with. In rural areas, roads giving access to villages and small towns are suffering from severe rutting because they are too small for the lorries that use them.

The problem can be caused by relatively few lorries, and it is primarily a matter of width, the report says. Lorry wheels which overrun the edge of the road put an "intolerable strain on the carriageway edge which fails".

On secondary urban roads damage by lorries to pavements is the most serious cause of deterioration, together with trench-digging for gas, electricity, and water works and the average expenditure for all UK highway authorities on remedial work after damage by lorries is nearly 17 per cent of the total.

"This is a very serious situation, and the institution recommends that the police and highway authorities be more rigorous in their attempts to stop the practice of running on footpaths and claim damages where cases can be proven," the report says.

It concludes that there is an overemphasis on maintaining motorways and trunk roads which, while they present important and immediate problems, account for only four per cent of the country's roads.

Ruling bans treatment by trustee consultants

By Nicholas Timmins
Social Services Correspondent

Consultants who are directors or trustees of private hospitals with charitable status must not treat patients in them privately, the Charity Commissioners have ruled.

The ruling is likely to mean that consultants will have to resign as directors or trustees of at least a dozen private acute hospitals, the Association of Independent Hospitals says.

Appeals have also been made to the General Medical Council and to the British Medical Association to rule that consultants should not be allowed to invest in non-charitable private hospitals and then treat patients in them.

The association's members include big groups such as Nuffield and American Medical International hospitals and small nursing homes. Its administrator, Mr John Randle, said yesterday that at least a dozen charitable private hospitals would be affected by the commissioners' ruling.

He said that it had always been the case under the Charities Act 1960 that there must be no conflict between someone's personal interest in treating patients and his duty as a trustee.

NHS 'needs more women doctors'

More women doctors should be available to treat National Health Service patients, the national council of the Medical Women's Federation said yesterday (the Press Association reports). At its annual meeting in Glasgow it agreed that women doctors should be available for patients.


The federation claims that a disproportionate number of women doctors have difficulty in completing postgraduate training and are forced to take unpopular posts or part-time insecure jobs.

England's first and most successful Enterprise Zone celebrates 3 years hard work

The rebirth of Corby began three years ago when it became a development area. On Monday 22 June 1981 Corby was declared the first Enterprise Zone in the country. This made it possible to offer a bigger, better package of benefits, grants and incentives to all industrialists planning new projects or relocation.

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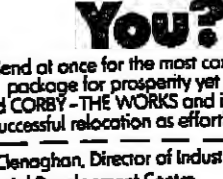
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Voice command system developed for computer

By Matthew May

Getting to grips with the microcomputer age could well become easier with the latest development in the field, the ability to talk to a machine instead of using a keyboard.

The United States software company, SuperSoft, has now produced a commercial voice recognition system, Voicedrive, which it is using to write three programs for a computer from Texas Instruments.

Spoken control can be substituted for any combination of the key strokes normally used in a program. Users have to place any word they want recognized in the computer's vocabulary by

repeating it several times. By storing several versions of the word, the computer can allow for any variations in a person's voice.

The speech is converted into digital bits of information so that numbers are substituted for the energy, pitch and voiced or unvoiced nature of the language. This digital information is broken into 50 frames per second, and every frame is stored.

Up to 50 words can be recognized by the computer instantly, with another 50 available in a quarter of a second.

Wedding of exiled king delayed

The marriage of a young English woman to exiled King Rehad Al-Mahdi of Tunisia has been postponed.

Caroline Mackenzie's mother said yesterday the 36-year-old "king" was suffering from meningitis in hospital.

The stockbroker king met his future "queen-in-exile" at the City firm where they both worked and they became engaged 15 months ago.

Their planned marriage next Saturday near her home in Sherborne St John's, Hampshire, was hailed as the "wedding of the week" in the latest edition of *Woman* magazine.

Miss Mackenzie, an Oxford graduate, who was unavailable for comment yesterday, met him in November 1982.

Billy Graham leaves hospital

Dr Billy Graham, the American evangelist, left the Royal Masonic Hospital, west London, yesterday after a successful sinus operation.

Dr Graham launches Mission England, his biggest crusade for 20 years, in Bristol on Saturday.

TV man better

Cliff Michelmore, the television personality who was admitted to the East Surrey Hospital, Redhill, last week after a suspected heart attack, should be well enough to leave "in a day or two," the hospital said yesterday.

Memorial for police killed on duty

By Robin Young

Woman Police Constable Yvonne Fletcher, who was shot outside the Libyan People's Bureau, and other police officers killed in the course of duty, will be commemorated by a charity whose formation is announced today.

Mr Michael Winner, a prominent film director, has set up the Police Memorial Trust as the result of the public response to a letter he wrote to *The Times* and subsequent publicity elsewhere.

He said yesterday that he had received about a hundred letters supporting his idea that mem-

orials should be raised to police officers killed on duty. Two-thirds of the letters included gifts of money which totalled nearly £600 already.

A policeman's wife from West Yorkshire wrote describing Mr Winner's scheme as "a real morale booster for the younger policemen and their wives and families as I think they must often wonder, after the flak they have received during the picket line demonstrations, whether it is all worth it."

Another gift came from an

American tourist on holiday in Scotland.

Mr Winner said yesterday that he knew of 35 police officers killed on duty in the past 12 years.

"We would be happy to commemorate victims of the past 15 or 20 years, and if there is money left over our trust deeds enable us to make payments to the dependents of police victims," he said.

The address of the Police Memorial Trust, to which contributions may be sent, is 6-8 Sackville Street, London, W1X 1DD.

Kohl expected to ride out challenges at party congress

From Michael Mayes, Bonn

Two challenges to the west German Government will dominate the Christian Democrats' congress, which opens in Stuttgart this evening - the likelihood of protracted strikes in the engineering and metal industry, and the growing row over the proposed amnesty for firms accused of tax evasion.

A revolt is already threatened in the ranks of the opposition Government over the amnesty. The Free Democrats have had second thoughts, and Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the party leader, has been strongly criticized for approving the plan.

Many Christian Democratic members of the Bundestag are also unhappy about the biting accusations of self-interest levelled at the Government and the decision with which the press has greeted the proposal.

Herr Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, and his ministers have insisted that the amnesty does not absolve any of the 1,000 companies involved from repaying in full the taxes it owes. Herr Kohl will probably repeat to the congress his conviction that, given the nebulous laws on political donation, most firms did not realize they were doing anything wrong. The amnesty will not affect the investigations and possible trials of those involved in receiving payments from the Flick group of companies.

Herr Kohl will probably ride out any incipient revolt, much as he has weathered other challenges to his authority. His standing in the party is now high, and the murmuring and complaints about his relaxed style of leadership, heard only a few months ago, have all but vanished.

A more serious challenge

from his Government in the industrial field. The vote by the Stuttgart metalworkers to back their union's call for strikes over the demand for a 35-hour week has shaken the Government. Herr Kohl has given a warning of the serious damage a strike would do to Germany's industrial recovery, and will appeal again to the unions to sit down at the negotiating table.

There will be another ballot today of members of the metalworkers' union in the Frankfurt area. The union will decide on Thursday what further steps to take. It is supported in its campaign for a five-hour cut in the working week, without a cut in pay, by the printers union and the big public service union.

The first major industrial conflict since the coalition came to power has caught the Government off guard. There have been no big strikes in Germany since 1978, and the Government appears to have underestimated the unions' militancy on the issue. Their demands have not been softened by the Government's counter-offer of early retirement.

Chancellor Kohl will probably soften his tough stand against any change in the working week, which the union says is the only way to create more jobs and cut unemployment. But he will insist that unemployment, which the Government has had little success in reducing, will be alleviated only by the long-awaited upturn in the economy. The congress will also discuss the challenge of new technology to German industry and society, and government plans for a tax cut, which entails raising indirect taxes and cutting family benefits and have aroused opposition.



Mr. Richard Sargeant of the Los Angeles Olympic Committee (left) receives the flame from Professor Nissiotis. Right, the torch being lit.

Greeks keep low profile at Olympic flame ceremony

The Olympic Flame was lit in ancient Olympia yesterday and was promptly flown to New York for the twenty-third Olympic Games which open in Los Angeles on July 28.

Miss Katerina Didaskalon, a drama student aged 24, dressed in the robes of a high priestess, and standing in front of the ruined Temple of Hera, lit the flame from the rays of the sun with the help of a concave mirror.

Escorted by a chorus of 14

young women wearing long beige tunics, and by two flute-players, she carried the Olympic torch to the stadium where the original games were held in antiquity to invoke Zeus's blessing.

There was enough pageantry to preserve the tradition, but despite the presence of a senior Cabinet minister, Greek participation in the ceremony was evidently low key. The tight security measures in the sanctuary, barred to the public for

the day, were a constant reminder of the bitterness and controversy that have surrounded the occasion.

Many Greeks believe the Los Angeles organizing committee is committing sacrilege against the Olympic ideal by authorizing the commercial sponsorship of the relay of the flame over 5,500 miles in the United States at the rate of nearly £1,500 a mile, even though the money will be used for charity.

A boycott staged by the Greek Amateur Athletics Federation, and threats by the local authorities to mar the ceremony, prompted the Greek Olympic committee to abstain from the lighting ceremony and cancel the relay run over 500 miles to Athens. Plans to transfer the flame via satellite had to be abandoned because of technical difficulties.

Greek resentment over the so-called commercialization of the flame, was evident in

Olympia in the form of a large banner hung above the entrance to the sanctuary which read: "Olympia refuses to give the flame."

Later, as the torch was handed by Professor Nicos Nissiotis, in his capacity as Greek member of the International Olympic Committee, to a delegation of Los Angeles Organizers, a few dozen demonstrators gathered outside the town hall of the modern village of Olympia to protest.

Iran's chief Marxist recants on television

Tehran (AFP) - The leading ideologist of the banned Iranian Communist Party has denounced Marxism and all his own theoretical works on communism.

In a televised "confession" lasting 59 minutes last night, Mr Ehsan Tabari urged viewers to reject his books because they were "full of false information" and everything which had no bearing on Islam was "without value".

As the head of the Tudeh (Communist) Party's ideology section, Mr Tabari had even greater prestige than the party's Secretary General, Mr Nureddin Kianure, who himself made a televised confession last year.

In fact, analysts here have expressed surprise that Mr Tabari had not made a confession earlier, as the rest of the leadership has done since the party was banned in May last year and hundreds of its supporters arrested.

The authorities' explanation for the delay was that Mr Tabari, aged 67, was in hospital after a heart attack. During his televised statement, he looked thinner and older, and asked to be excused for reading from notes "because of my illness".

He gave an account of his 42 years as a Communist Party member, including eight years in exile in the Soviet Union.

He said he was arrested here on April 27, 1983, three months after the leading members of the party executive.

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Prisoner of conscience



Uruguay

Truman's home town remembers

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The inhabitants of Independence, Missouri, commemorate today the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of the city's most famous son - Harry S. Truman, the insignificant small-town politician who went on to become one of the strongest presidents in American history.

For the most part the celebrations will be local and low-key, just as Truman would have liked it. They began on Sunday, with a parade through the town centre and will continue in fits and starts until early next week. Highlights include a baseball game, a wreath-laying ceremony and the baking of a birthday cake large enough for 5,000 people.

There will also be guided tours of 219 North Delaware, Truman's home, which doubled as the summer White House during the seven and a half years he was president. A special set of postage stamps has been issued and enterprising businessmen are marketing Truman T-shirts.

Truman was sworn in as the thirty-third president of the United States on April 12, 1945, after the death in office of Franklin Roosevelt.

Leading article, page 15

White journalist charged over Swapo documents

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

A white Namibian journalist, Miss Gwen Lister, appeared in a regional court near Johannesburg yesterday, charged with possession of banned literature, which she brought back with her after attending a United Nations conference on Namibia (South West Africa) in Paris last May.

Miss Lister, in addition to her main job as the political reporter of the *Windhoek Observer*, is also a correspondent for the BBC in Namibia. The documents were confiscated by customs officials at Jan Smuts airport, Johannesburg, where she was detained for a time.

Five of the documents have given rise to charges under the Publications and Customs Act. Two of them are separate editions of the constitution of Swapo (South West Africa People's Organization), which has been waging a guerrilla war

against South Africa's occupation of Namibia.

● Critics accused: South African newspapers said yesterday that British critics of the visit by Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister, to Britain are hypocritical and ill-informed about social changes in South Africa.

Mr Botha is to visit Britain and West Germany in about three weeks, during a trip that could include Portugal and possibly France.

Beeld, an Afrikaans daily that supports Mr Botha's plans for limited racial reform, said in a leading article: "The British Government's position over sports contacts with and weapons for South Africa, and the unbelievable two-faced stance over condemning terrorism and at the same time protecting the African National Congress, is one of the things that is most strongly faulted by South Africans..."

Leading article, page 15

Duarte wins El Salvador election without fraud challenge from rival

From John Carlin, San Salvador

Señor Napoleón Duarte has won El Salvador's presidential election, but by a much smaller margin over Major Roberto D'Aubuisson than had been expected. That is not official, but is beyond doubt.

Señor Duarte has claimed victory and his opponent has not contradicted him. Fears that Major D'Aubuisson would challenge the result with charges of fraud also failed to materialize.

The right-wing candidate claimed victory at the end of polling on Sunday evening but effectively sealed the outcome in a news conference yesterday morning when, abandoning his habitual belligerence, he admitted Señor Duarte was ahead on the initial returns.

"I'm not going to concede defeat until the Central Elections Council puts out the official results," Major D'Aubuisson said, but his tone indicated that he is resigned to second place.

Crucially, he then said: "There were some irregularities (in the voting) ... but I will not

use the word 'fraud'." His pledge to accept the result will smooth the path for El Salvador's latest attempt to install a serious democracy and take away the pretext for violence among those sectors of the extreme right whom it is still feared might seek bloody retribution.

At a victory rally at Christian Democrat headquarters in the early hours of yesterday morning, Señor Duarte announced that he had won 55 per cent of the vote to Major D'Aubuisson's 45 per cent.

"There is no doubt. We are absolutely sure we have won," he told screaming supporters. The estimate was based on the party's own count. In the first round in March, the Christian Democrat projections tallied perfectly with the official results.

Major D'Aubuisson maintained that he had won eight of El Salvador's 14 provinces. If that proves the case, it will mean that Señor Duarte's traditional superiority in the capital has been decisive.

His rival said he expected a large drain of capital from the country - another subtle concession of defeat - endorsing the predictions of how the private sector, bitterly antagonistic to Señor Duarte, would react.

● QUITO: The right-wing entrepreneur Señor León Febres Cordero, claiming a surprise victory over his Social Democratic opponent in Ecuador's presidential election, yesterday pledged to take this oil-rich country out of a severe economic slump (Reuters reports).

Señor Febres Cordero appeared on television as official results of Sunday's runoff gave him 52.2 per cent, with three-quarters of the votes counted.

The Social Democrat, Señor Rodrigo Borja, who was favourite in opinion polls, won 47.8 per cent and conceded he may have lost the race.

● PANAMA CITY: Both candidates in Panama's first presidential election in 16 years claimed they were ahead yesterday but counting continues (Reuters reports).

Russians resume one-way dialling

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The Russians have partly restored direct telephone dialling from West Europe to Moscow after a gap of nearly two years, but not from the Soviet Union to the West. A spokesman for the Central Moscow Telephone Exchange said yesterday that a handful of Moscow subscribers were able to dial directly to the West but there was no prospect of this being extended.

Direct dialling was introduced on international lines from and to the Soviet Union shortly before the Moscow Olympic Games in 1980, when the Russians were under pressure to establish modern communications links with the Western world.

The move was never announced officially, however, and direct dial facilities from Moscow were withdrawn suddenly in July, 1982. Soviet officials said this was due to "technical repairs" which would last two years, and the current partial restoration of automatic telephone links seems to be related to this timetable. Dialling from the West to Russia lapsed in September, 1982.

Telephone callers in London, Paris and Vienna found last week that they could dial Moscow automatically again, though the Soviet authorities have still to confirm the facility officially. The situation has not changed for Moscow subscribers, on the other hand.

The continuing inconvenience for British businessmen in Moscow will be one of the topics raised by Mr Paul Channon, the Minister for Trade, when he arrives in Moscow on May 20 for a five day visit.

Western embassies have one or two lines for direct dialling, but not businessmen or journalists.

In an exception which adds confusion to an already tangled picture, West German businessmen in Moscow have been able to dial their companies in West Germany automatically for the past month.

"Either the Russians have got their wires crossed or the confusion is deliberate," commented one West European diplomat. When direct dialling was abolished two years ago, EEC countries protested to the Kremlin that the move violated the Helsinki accords of 1975.

The most common explanation for the Soviet action was that the "Russians found it difficult to monitor contacts with the West when modern technology was used, and that the Kremlin realized to its dismay that the system enabled Soviet dissidents to speak to the West (and to Soviet émigrés) with relative ease.

Bonn asks US to send Moscow signal

From Mehdi Ali, Washington

Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, opened two-day talks here yesterday with Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, on East-West relations, arms control issues, Nato and US-European Community problems.

Herr Genscher, who was to meet President Reagan later, is consulting about his Moscow visit on May 21 and 22 for talks with his Soviet counterpart, Mr Andrei Gromyko, a West German official here said.

The West German minister wants Nato to send a new signal to Moscow indicating continued readiness to discuss constructive talks on improving relations. Such a signal could be formally endorsed by the Nato foreign ministers spring meeting here at the end of this month.

President Reagan, who has just returned from his first visit to China, has repeatedly called on Moscow to return to the separate intermediate range nuclear forces (INF) and strategic arms reduction talks (Start) in Geneva. The Soviet Union walked out of the INF negotiations last November when Nato began deployment of Pershing 2 and cruise missiles in Western Europe.



Mother and son: Sophia Loren and Edoardo, aged 11, who co-stars in her latest film *Qualcosa di biondo* (Something blond) now being shot in Sorrento, Italy.

Why India suddenly became the centre of drug traffic

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Quite suddenly, India has become the drug smuggling centre of the world. The Indian connexion now supplies high-grade heroin to drug dealers in London, in Europe - via Frankfurt - and in the United States - in ever-increasing quantities.

"Very few flights now leave Delhi for London or Frankfurt without some narcotics on board," Mr John King, the US Drug Enforcement Administration attaché in Delhi, said. "India has become a heroin smuggler's dream."

According to Mr King and other officials engaged in the nearly hopeless task of stopping this traffic, the ideal conditions for drug smuggling in India spring from the comparative cheapness of high-grade heroin; the lack of customs checking on departure; the lenience of sentences - the maximum penalty for heroin smuggling is three years' imprisonment - and the ease with which bail is granted.

In addition to the Indian gateways of Delhi and Bombay, the drug smugglers also use Kandamdu and Colombo as part of their regular itinerary. The south Indian routes have come into prominence because of a new toughness in Thailand and Hongkong in the East and the successes of a Pakistani

crackdown and the Iran-Iraq war in the West. The traditional smuggling routes have been disrupted and the trade squeezed into the centre.

The Indian connexion begins in Calcutta, where many perfectly legitimate chemical companies manufacture the compounds known as precursor chemicals, used for manufacture of heroin from opium. The chemicals move over the border from Manipur and Mizoram into Burma and from there into the hands of the insurgent armies in Shan province, which run processing plants in the south, near the Thai border.

Until recently, processed heroin was smuggled into Thailand and reached the West via Bangkok. The Thai Army has joined police in stamping out this trade and smugglers have been turning to other routes.

They reason that if material can be smuggled in from Calcutta, it can perfectly well be smuggled the other way, and it is now estimated that 45 to 90 lb a week of the best injectible heroin has been coming into the country by this route for the past five months.

New routes into Bombay are opening up from the opium fields and heroin processing plants in southern Afghanistan and around the Khyber Pass in

the North-West Frontier province of Pakistan, the traditional route through Iran and Iraq having been closed by hostilities. The smugglers have been sending their product into India via Lahore and Amritsar. This has also become too hazardous since the increase of tension in Punjab.

New routes have accordingly been opened into Rajasthan, particularly through Jaisalmer, and through the mysterious misty swamplands of the Rann of Kutch, during the last two months.

The normal Pakistani outlet through Karachi still operates, but has been cut down by more insistent action by the Pakistani authorities, with the cooperation of US authorities.

"Any sailor, tourist, hitch-hiker, or businessman who offers to buy your heroin in Pakistan now is likely to be an undercover agent for the US drug enforcement people," a smuggler was reported as sorrowfully complaining.

From Delhi or Bombay the drugs headed for the British market go via Heathrow to Southall, London, where British Drug Squad detectives have recently reported a huge increase in the amount of heroin for sale.

Prince found dead in Seine

From Diana Gaddes, Paris

The body of Prince Edouard-Xavier de Lobkowicz, who was related to the Bourbon-Parma pretenders to the Spanish throne, has been found washed up on the banks of the Seine outside Paris with shotgun wounds in the throat and chest. The Prince, aged 23, had been missing since April 4.

The Prince's family initially described his death as "accidental", but police are treating it as murder. The motive is unknown, although there is talk of the family's connexion with charitable organizations in Lebanon, and of Bourbon-Parma involvement in international arms deals.

Prince Edouard-Xavier was the eldest son of Prince Edouard de Lobkowicz, a descendant of the Czech aristocratic family and wealthy head of New York stockbrokers Stralem and Co.

The young prince kept well out of the public eye, rarely being seen at the grand soirees of Parisian high society. He was last seen leaving the family flat in Avenue Marceau in the fashionable eighth arrondissement of Paris, simply saying that he had a "rendezvous".

His car was found about two weeks later parked at the Gare de Lyon. His body, weighed down with a breeze-block, was found at the end of April at the confluence of the Seine and Marne at Ivry. It was formally identified last Saturday.

Prince Edouard-Xavier was descended on his mother's side from Louis XIV, Louis' grandson, the Duke of Anjou, became King of Spain as Philip V. One of his sons founded the Bourbon-Parma family, whose senior branch are pretenders to the Spanish throne.

Shopkeepers of Calais furious

Paris - The shopkeepers and restaurateurs of Calais are up in arms about France's decision to ban the entry of British tourists without passports (Diana Gaddes writes).

The Government had taken a sledgehammer to crack a nut, M Henri Ravisse, head of the Calais Chamber of Commerce, said yesterday.

The decision was out of all proportion to the risk of illegal immigration and would have "serious consequences" for the whole of the Pas de Calais coast, M Ravisse said.

Policeman dies in football riot

Madrid. - An off-duty policeman was killed when hit on the head by a stone as he tried to break up a fight among spectators at a minor league football match in Córdoba at the weekend.

On the same day - Saturday - the King's Cup final in Madrid ended with 16 players being carried off on stretchers and more than 60 spectators being treated in hospital.

Faction fight

Durban. (Reuters) - Fifteen Africans were hacked and shot to death in tribal faction fighting during the weekend in the Umtumbulo district, about 20 miles south of Durban.

35 electrocuted

Delhi. (AP) - Thirty-five passengers were electrocuted when an overcrowded intercity bus carrying old bicycles on its roof came in contact with roadside electricity wires, the Uttar Pradesh state police said.

Card control

Peking (AP) - China is to introduce identity cards for all over 16 to have tighter control over the population and make administrative procedures easier, the People's Daily said.

Cold dip

The British Arctic explorer, David Memphman-Adams, aged 27, has survived a potentially fatal fall through the ice near the magnetic North Pole.

Defiant Hart faces four key primaries

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The three Democratic presidential hopefuls today face four crucial state primaries - many political experts - but none of the candidates themselves - predict could effectively see up the nomination for Mr Walter Mondale.

The primaries are being held in Ohio, Indiana, Maryland and North Carolina and between them they will send a total of 368 delegates to the national convention in San Francisco in July.

Opinion polls show the former Vice-President leading Senator Gary Hart and the Rev Jesse Jackson in all four states, though in Ohio, which accounts for one-third of today's delegate total, and Indiana the gap between him and Mr Hart was very narrow.

Although a victory in all four states would leave Mr Mondale, whose delegate count now amounts to 1,234 after his victory in Texas on Saturday, still several hundred delegates short of the 1,967 he needs to secure the nomination, it would almost certainly give his campaign enough momentum to capture California, the biggest prize of all, on June 5.

However, Mr Hart made it clear yesterday that despite his setbacks in Texas and Louisiana at the weekend he intends to stay in the race right through to the national convention. Mr Jackson also emphasized that he had no intention of withdrawing, and the scene appears to be set for a bitter struggle in San Francisco.

Aware of the damage which continued squabbling among the candidates could do to the Democrats' election prospects in November, Democratic Party leaders are trying to forge a unity agreement between the three contestants.

However, Mr Hart and Mr Jackson have expressed reservations about such moves, which they fear are designed to



Kiss in the crowd: Senator Hart receiving a kiss from a Cleveland supporter.

help Mr Mondale secure the nomination in advance of the convention.

The need for the party to end its infighting and present a united front against President Reagan was underlined yesterday by a new poll published by the *Los Angeles Times*. The poll showed the President would easily defeat either Mr Mondale or Mr Hart if the election were held now.

The unity moves are being spearheaded by Mr Charles Manatt, the party chairman who has said he would support the appointment of Mr Robert Strauss, the veteran politician, to head a group to resolve disputes between the three candidates.

However, Mr Hart's staff say they are opposed to Mr Strauss's appointment, as he is a Mondale supporter and his nomination is seen as an attempt to boost the former Vice-President's nomination prospects.

Both Mr Hart and Mr Jackson are insisting, as the price for their participation in the talks, that the unity group should examine the process whereby delegates are selected to the convention.

China pledges support and arms for PLO

Peking (Reuters) - Mr Yassir Arafat, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, yesterday secured a Chinese commitment to supply further weapons to the PLO as well as continued political backing.

The new China News Agency quoted Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Prime Minister, as telling Mr Arafat that China would provide "the cause of Palestinian liberation with political, material and moral assistance within its capability". Middle East diplomats took the term

"material assistance" to mean military and medical aid.

Mr Zhao gave the assurance before Mr Arafat left for North Korea after a three-day visit.

The North Korean Central News Agency, monitored in Tokyo, later reported that Mr Arafat had arrived in Pyongyang and was met at the airport by Mr Kang Sun San, the Prime Minister.

China, which does not have diplomatic relations with Israel, is one of the PLO's most long-term backers

The rising value of girl's best friend

From Ian Murray, Brussels

Paris fashions are changing. The Kremlin was well satisfied with the Soviet harvest last year. There is optimism in Hongkong about what happens when the lease runs out. Social problems are growing in Singapore.

These little gems of information are just some of the many facets of world events reflected in the Kempen, the diamond centre of Antwerp, world capital of the trade.

The latest report of the trade's ruling body, the Diamond-High Council, draws attention to them as being among the reasons why turnover in a girl's best friend went up by 14 per cent last year.

A main reason seems to be that the revival of the American economy is getting down to the classes that can afford to buy diamonds worth less than \$2,000 (£1,300), for the market in the United States has been rising steeply in this category.

For almost opposite reasons, it has been soaring in Israel. But the report concludes, this is because increased political tension and hyperinflation have increased uncertainty. Traders are moving particularly into uncut stones as a preventive measure.

In France, the problem - for the trade at least - is the Government's tax and financial measures, which have had the effect of soaking up cash usually spent on diamonds. As a result, fashionable Paris society avoids wearing fine and expensive jewelry.

This is not so in Britain, where the rough diamond trade has dropped by 45 per cent, which, the High Council concludes, must be due to the fact that De Beers is concentrating on quality goods.

In Hongkong, too, there had been a sharp drop in trade, but at the turn of the year things began to improve. The fear of big bankruptcies and an exodus to Singapore obviously began to fade and the trade began to pick up.

Singapore, however, failed to take off as a market, in part because migration from Hongkong dried up.

Singapore is also suffering from mounting social tension, which means there is less need for diamonds. Somewhat cryptically, the report says: "As a result of social tensions, it has endeavoured to curtail corruption somewhat."

One of Antwerp's main suppliers of polished stones is now India, which has overtaken the Soviet Union. The reason is that, while India has been concentrating on producing high-quality gems, the Russians, having enjoyed a good harvest, are not in need of so much hard foreign currency.

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THE ARTS

The great Russian director Yuri Lyubimov is no stranger to controversy and hostility - both of which, in generous measure, have surrounded his production of Verdi's *Rigoletto* for the Maggio Musicale at the Teatro Comunale in Florence: John Higgins reviews his success and failure

Operatic swings and roundabouts

Life around the stage director Yuri Lyubimov is rarely dull. His production of *Rigoletto* which opened the 47th Maggio Musicale at the weekend generated columns of newspaper long before the ominous opening chords of Verdi's opera were heard at the Teatro Comunale. The coming and going of singers and conductors, whose views did not always coincide with those of the former administrator of the Taganka, made the Comunale look more like Clapham Junction than an opera house.

The first to depart, early in the year, probably through no fault of Lyubimov's, was the announced conductor, Giuseppe Sinopoli. Then a week ago Piero Cappuccilli, the *Rigoletto* actor, declared that he did not like the staging and suggested instead a concert performance. The proposal was promptly and understandably rejected by Luciano Berio, the new director of the Maggio who has been called in to restore glamour and prestige to a festival which has recently lost some of the lustre of yesterday.

So out went Cappuccilli and, in sympathy with him, Sinopoli's replacement, Bruno Bartoletti. Franco Zeffirelli from the sidelines declared himself in favour of Cappuccilli's action and the Italian baritone, with three hundred or so *Rigolettos* under his belt, had little to lose from missing a few more.

The first new arrival was Tony Salvadori from Venice, but he did not stay long and went back from whence he came. Edita Gruberova, the Gilda, after some emotional scenes in the theatre, agreed to stay, but she was only going to sing the first three performances. Georg Tichy was brought in from Vienna, at her suggestion, for *Rigoletto* while Berio had secured Hans Graf, son of Herbert Graf, former *Intendant* at Zurich, as conductor. No controversy appeared to surround the Duca. Peter Dvorsky.

Such was the background to the Florence *Rigoletto*, which had respectable middle-aged ladies thumping on the doors of the Comunale half an hour before the curtain was due to go up, demanding admittance. Those who made it inside found, inevitably, that the curtain was up already and they got an immediate idea of what all the fuss was about.

The stage of the Comunale had been turned into a kind of arena with, on the banked tiers, dummies scattered around, some of which were dressed in recognizable costume: Don Giovanni, Carmen, Don Quixote, Pagliaccio. It was a little like a haunted ballroom from a Diaghilev exhibition, except that the characters were strictly operatic, apart from Hitler and Charlie Chaplin placed side by side. It could have been, too, a Greek amphitheatre, except that Lyubimov's designer from Britain, Stefanos Lazaridis, had created a series of very un-Greek catwalks, platforms and ramps and a spiral stairway.

Stranger things have been seen in the opera houses of Germany, France and even Cardiff, but the performance began in a spirit of high tension and the boogie, predictably, started a few minutes into the score when Tichy went flat, possibly under the baleful curse of Montecarlo (Franco de Grandis). However, Graf kept his head in the pit, probably knowing that once Gruberova appeared the audience would quieten. That indeed it did. And the performance continued when there were those who, presumably, hoped it would not.

Through the gloom - and the Comunale's lighting was none too helpful - it emerged that Lyubimov was trying to say something about the relationship between dictators and clowns. It is a subject on which Lyubimov, a public entertainer all too often at the mercy of those above, is fairly expert. His *Rigoletto*

at court wears the dunce's cap and the red nose; to go home he puts on Chaplin's bowler and long overcoat and adopts a Chaplin walk.

Georg Tichy, whose rehearsal time must have been strictly limited, manages part of this concept and he addressed the Act II condemnation, "Corrigiani, vi rassa", directly to the audience, making it quite clear who supports the dictators. Tichy's baritone grew better with the evening, though the top of the voice sounded thin and he was obviously saving himself in the quartet.

Where he fails, and where Lyubimov fails, is in the relationship between father and daughter which provides the very core of Verdi's opera. Tichy's young, open face and wavy hair - a little like that of Hermann Prey at the start of his career - made him an impossible papa for Edita Gruberova's Gilda.

Lyubimov provides her with an omnipresent swing, a symbol of girlish innocence and a vehicle for "Caro nome", which Mme Gruberova sang to perfection with marvellous trills and pure *fil di voce* as she was wafted upstairs to bed and to abduction. The swing is used in the next act to thump *Rigoletto* in the rump as he is searching for his missing daughter and again in the last act by Sparafucile the excellent Kurt Rydl, dressed in torturer's black leather as he hauls it across stage with a boathook - he does after all live by the River Mincio - to use as a receptacle for Gilda's dying body. Swings or no swings, Gruberova made it quite clear that she is now the world's leading Gilda, and someone had better start recording her.

Peter Dvorsky plays the Duca as a straightforward tyrant. It is a familiar role for him and he sings it with big, beefy tone and not a great deal of finesse, although the Act II "Parma veder" was admirable. An attempted and unsuccessful decoration at the end of "La donna è

mobile" brought a storm of whistles and Dvorsky replied to his detractors by hanging on to his final note for a defiant eternity.

How far Lyubimov equates him with the dummy of Don Giovanni at the side of the stage has to be guessed at, but three masked figures in black - the *tre maschere* of Mozart's opera? - descend at Gilda's death.

Hans Graf in the circumstances proved a most cool and capable conductor, although it was not clear why the final act began with a clock striking in the distance: that comes later.

Lyubimov provides a few insights, a few impressive stage pictures, such as the bank of illuminated candles held by the dummies during "Caro nome" - an echo of his much more assured Boris for La Scala. But he makes rather more mistakes and is constantly unsympathetic towards his principals, having them charge up and down stairs and ramps when they should be conserving their energies to sing, which happens to be their principal occupation. The main memory of this *Rigoletto* will be of Gruberova on her swing singing "Caro nome". And it is a *Rigoletto* of swings and roundabouts, gains and losses.

The action continued after the music had finished. Lyubimov refused to take a curtain call on stage. The audience bayed "RE-GIS-TAI". A spotlight eventually picked him out in the circle and the whistles, catcalls and cheers started all over again. Lyubimov made some gestures towards the audience which were better lit and more comprehensible than some of those on stage. Some time before midnight there was another outburst from the street below my hotel window in the direction of the Comunale. It sounded as though Lyubimov was leaving the theatre.



Gilda pre-eminent: Edita Gruberova

Concerts
RPO/Kamu
Festival Hall

Where Russia and France meet in Prokofiev, Tchaikovsky and Mussorgsky/Ravel, few conductors can be better relied on than Okko Kamu to draw out their complementary astringent self-awareness and seduction of manner. Recently appointed principal guest conductor of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Mr. Kamu, from Finland, has a razor-sharp ear for both nuance of instrumental colour and precise tone of voice, and his messages, whether of restraint or of unabashed exhibitionism, are dispatched with lightning speed.

The Royal Philharmonic was on its finest form on Sunday night to deliver them with tingling immediacy in Prokofiev's *Symphonic classics*. They would deliciously understate and thereby sharpen the skilful dynamic contrasts of its opening, only to nuzzle with every hard-worked strand of rhythmic counterpoint, within tempo cunningly slow and poised enough to be truly lively.

Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto, with Boris Belkin as soloist, was what Berlioz would have called a caprice written with the point of a needle. It was refreshing and exciting to hear such a weightless, translucent orchestral opening, to find it caught up in the whimsical shading of the fine-drawn solo line, and then to enjoy the solo clarinet's knowing replies to the sour-sweet voice of the violin in the slow movement. And the cadenza was a delightful miniature of the first movement, a fragile personal fantasy, at once self-conscious and delicately unpredictable.

But both Mr Belkin and Mr Kamu can become intoxicated by their very dexterity of manner to the point where mannerism lurks close. And despite much that was exquisitely beautiful in the slow movement (the flute's asides, the violin's gradual isolation), there were edges of over-indulgence which ultimately distracted attention, and later led to an initially compelling but overdone finale.

The promenade around Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition* was a pretty brisk affair, with rather more attention to close, obvious detail than to the evoked responses, as it were, of the viewer. A certain lack of breathing-space tended to lessen a sense of wonder in transformation as the work progressed. But this was none the less an unusually vivid, carefully imagined performance with weight and scintillating movement balanced by play in playing of both individual and corporate excellence.

Hilary Finch

Television

A strange sort of optimism

Pursuing its admirable policy of bringing minority entertainments to the wider world, Channel 4 broadcast last night one of the most acclaimed black films ever made in this country. Menelik Shabazz, who wrote and directed *Burning* an *Illusion* regards this as an optimistic portrayal of a black girl's radicalization through her encounters with white prejudice and with the carelessly macho attitudes common to many black males.

It is indeed well acted (its stars are now household faces in a variety of series) but is it really optimistic? Set aside the comic-strip dialogue ("What was I to do? I knew only I could

decide!"), ignore the teen magazine situations (the blackness acts as armour against unsentimental appraisal) and consider the moral: racial separatism is the road to survival. Betons, whether black, white, brown or yellow, need this message like they need a hole in the head.

Horizon (BBC2) was hardly optimistic. The subject of *The Malvern Link* was our seemingly uncontrollable scientific-military-industrial complex,

and the extent to which secrecy precludes either accountability or, so far, any major spin-offs for civilian life. The onset of the Falklands war apparently stymied the one really promising back-bench Parliamentary attempt to open up this byzantine world.

The programme kept posing questions which it left unanswered, and it was not easy to tell how serious its allegations were, but one man at least did not mince his words. Tony

Wilson, a "systems reliability engineer" who had worked for four years on the nuclear warhead for the Polaris missile, claimed that its cost had gone 20 times over budget, and that the decision-making process was a mess. Another much-vaunted nuclear battlefield system, he said, was "over-stressed" and would tend to fail even during exercises.

The *Malvern Link* itself is apparently a new convergence between military and civil

science over what were called "fifth generation" computer projects. We heard about laser range-finders, and we were shown some pretty pictures of "thermal imaging", by which warm objects like people can be filmed through thick smoke.

The bits that worked best as "television" were of course the promotional set-pieces: a fresh-faced, diffident lad fiddling with a little box to fire a sea-to-air missile, and a gung-ho salesman from the Ministry of Defence: "With its high lethality and low cost we feel we're on to a world-war winner!" But an official answer to Mr Wilson would have been more interesting.

Michael Church

Galleries

Bloodshot view of the world

Simon Edmondson
Nicola JacobsAndrzej Jackowski
Anne BerthoudWorks on Paper
PatonEnglish
Expressionists
Warwick Arts TrustMichael Porter
BirkstedStephen Cox
Nigel GreenwoodNicholas Pope
WaddingtonBill Gibb
Roughs

any of Simon Edmondson's large paintings with noncommittal titles at Nicola Jacobs in Cork Street until June 2, but there can be little doubt that it is usually something unpleasant. The tonality is generally dark, the forms that disengage themselves from the gloom are generally human (more or less), and the action is violent: figures locked in conflict, splashes of red that might be blood (and anyway immediately evokes blood) or splashes of sulphurous yellow all go to make up a Dantesque vision only occasionally modulating into the relative calm of *Alternatives*, a monumental and for once reposeful female figure looming over a city spread out below. Not very likable, any of it, but the signals of distress come across loud and clear.

A similar sense of mystery pervades the canvases of Andrzej Jackowski, at Anne Berthoud in Langley Court until June 2, but here the effect is magical and dreamlike rather than gloomy. If Edmondson lines himself up with the German section of the *Zeitgeist* group, Jackowski (who despite his name was born in Wales and educated in England) has more in common with Italians such as Chia, though with an image like *The Fire Tree* - a sleeping figure under a fairy-tale tree, alone in an extensive landscape - one may well be reminded of something as local and eccentric as David Jones's Arthurian drawings. The suggestions of dream and the dreamer recur even more prominently in works like *Love's Journeys* (smarter, mixed-media pieces on paper) on the hauntingly *Downfalling*, in which it appears to be the snow that is falling while a man floats sleepily through the air and a seated woman watches unsurprised. Equally memorable is *Diving into the Water*, in which a man up to his shoulders in the dark water pushes or pulls an empty boat through the reeds. If the painting sounds literary, that is not finally its effect on the spot: Jackowski makes his effects through a most delicate and precise control of colour and composition, so that one responds to the paintings in what Wordsworth might call a wise passiveness, vaguely interested to know what the subject-matter means to the artist, but perfectly content not to be specifically informed.

Next door, at the Paton Gallery, four artists are showing *Works on Paper* until May 26, three of them at least clearly related to these current trends. "Works on paper" gives a slightly misleading impression, since most of them are quite large and painterly and, where John Monks and Philip Stevens are concerned, intensely coloured. Monks is the closest in effect to the *Zeitgeist* painters - rather surprisingly when one remembers the calm and classically detailed Egyptian heads in his last show, a couple of which are still visible. This time the two most striking pieces are *Untitled Drawings* which feature an old-fashioned electric fan against a turbulent background of rich and subtly differentiated colour, making the artist's recent interest in Monet waterlilies entirely comprehensible. Chris Baker's work is closer to abstraction, though in a piece like *Echo 1*, without being exactly sure what the figurative base is, one can recognize gaps opening on mysterious perspectives, and in *Curtain 1* and 2 there is unmistakable evidence of something slightly ajar through which a sliver of cold white light escapes. These landscape-based abstractions exude a philosophical calm; Stevens's there are all sorts of movement - sometimes, perhaps, the slow movement of water down a subterranean rock formation, sometimes the lightning-illuminated drama of a stormy landscape, but always infused with strong emotion.

This slightly odd combination of New Spirit drama, even anguish, with the local British tradition of 1950s landscape-based abstraction (the soft-spoken British answer to American Abstract Expressionism) recurs elsewhere. It is to be seen, for instance, in several of the painters showing in the Warwick Arts Trust's lively show of English Expressionists (33 Warwick Square, until June 10), which ranges from such grand and famous artists as John Hoyland and Gillian Ayres, through a number of less-established figures like Terry Setch, Mali Morris and Albert Irwin - whom Hoyland featured in his memorable 1980 *Hayward Annual* where this particular line of continuity was first highlighted - to several who are showing this is, and Michael Porter, at the Birksted Gallery in Great Russell Street until June 9, offers a dis-

Powerful suggestions of dream and the dreamer: Jackowski's haunting *Downfalling*

tinguished variation on the same with his dramatically splashed and scraped and physically if not emotionally distressed evocations of Derbyshire moors, Cornish coasts, and mountains in the Pyrenees, which, as the catalogue note aptly phrases it, the paintings are "about" rather than of.

The inability of British artists to escape the landscape tradition (even supposing that they wanted to) is indicated vividly in two current shows of sculpture in London, both vitally connected with new sculptures I was writing about last week from Liverpool's Garden Festival. At Nigel Greenwood, 41 Sloane Gardens, we can until June 1 trace the evolution of Stephen Cox's splendid *Palanzana*, from scribbles of seed-shapes to drawings of an evidently man-made ball overgrown by a plant of some kind, and so on to different stonier, starting with a tiny Portland version then growing in Peperino, Travertine and finally, most intriguingly, Calcutta marble with the ball highly polished and the rest left rough: an extraordinary insight into the sculptor's creative imagination.

Natural forms of plant and bone and boulder are even more evidently at the root of Nicholas Pope's series of *Unknown Landscapes* on show at Wad-

Philharmonia/
Berglund
Festival Hall

It takes more than technique to find musical convictions amid the rodomontade of Liszt's piano concertos, and André Watts was able to illuminate the thought as well as the nifty passage-work in his account of the A major Concerto at the Philharmonia Orchestra's concert on Sunday afternoon. With support from Paavo Berglund's conducting in keeping a spirited performance from becoming too extravagant, the pianist skilfully added sense to sensibility.

His pedalling was not always helpful to the Lisztian spread of harmony in the dry acoustic of the hall, but his keen ear for rhythmic impetus, and his feeling for *rubato* as an expressive element in his phrasing, helped to sustain the composer's intentions, even when they keep on travelling hopefully in order to delay their arrival. Best of all was the filigree-fingerwork in decorative passages, and the overall firmness that kept the final section from veering into There were moments when the orchestra and pianist did not precisely come together, and some tattered chording also marred the detail of a grave and serious-minded performance of the First Symphony of Brahms after the interval. The conductor thrust the opening movement into a trough of despair midway through its development, perhaps to incense the subsequent sense of struggle it conveyed.

His relaxed treatment of the following Andante almost lost its momentum, and some instrumental lines (such as the nicely played violin and horn solos) were not best balanced with the rest of the texture. The third movement had a combative interest, however, and the finale transcended its initial tension and sombre character into a radiant assertion of confidence in the outcome. A serious intent was also evident in the incisive string playing of Barok that began the programme, transforming the *Divertimento* of the title into something more symphonic in purpose. With the violas on the conductor's right seated outside the cellos, there was a compelling sonority and linear strength of string texture, in which the music's contrast of solo and tutti passages acquired an almost dramatic effect, and the brooding slow movement had a vivid intensity.

Noel Goodwin

Royal Ballet
Covent Garden

The Royal Ballet's new programme, first given on Saturday night, is based entirely on French music of this century, but, since that fact (which could be a useful selling point) is not mentioned in their advertising, I suppose it might be a coincidence.

There are, I think, not many chances to hear the music of Charles Koechlin used for *Shadowplay*, and there are few opportunities in the programmes of the two Royal Ballet companies to see the ballets that Antony Tudor created or staged for them, even though he ranks second only to Ashton (and well above all competition) in the hierarchy of British choreographers.

So the present revival of *Shadowplay* is welcome, even if one might think that its theme of a boy growing up and learning how to face life might be better conveyed by casting it from lower down the ranks than Wayne Eagling, Merle Park and Derek Rencher.

John Percival

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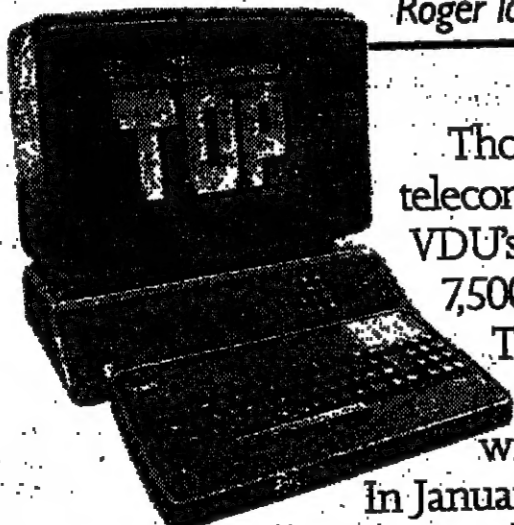
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Roger Tomlin, Development Director, Thomson Travel.

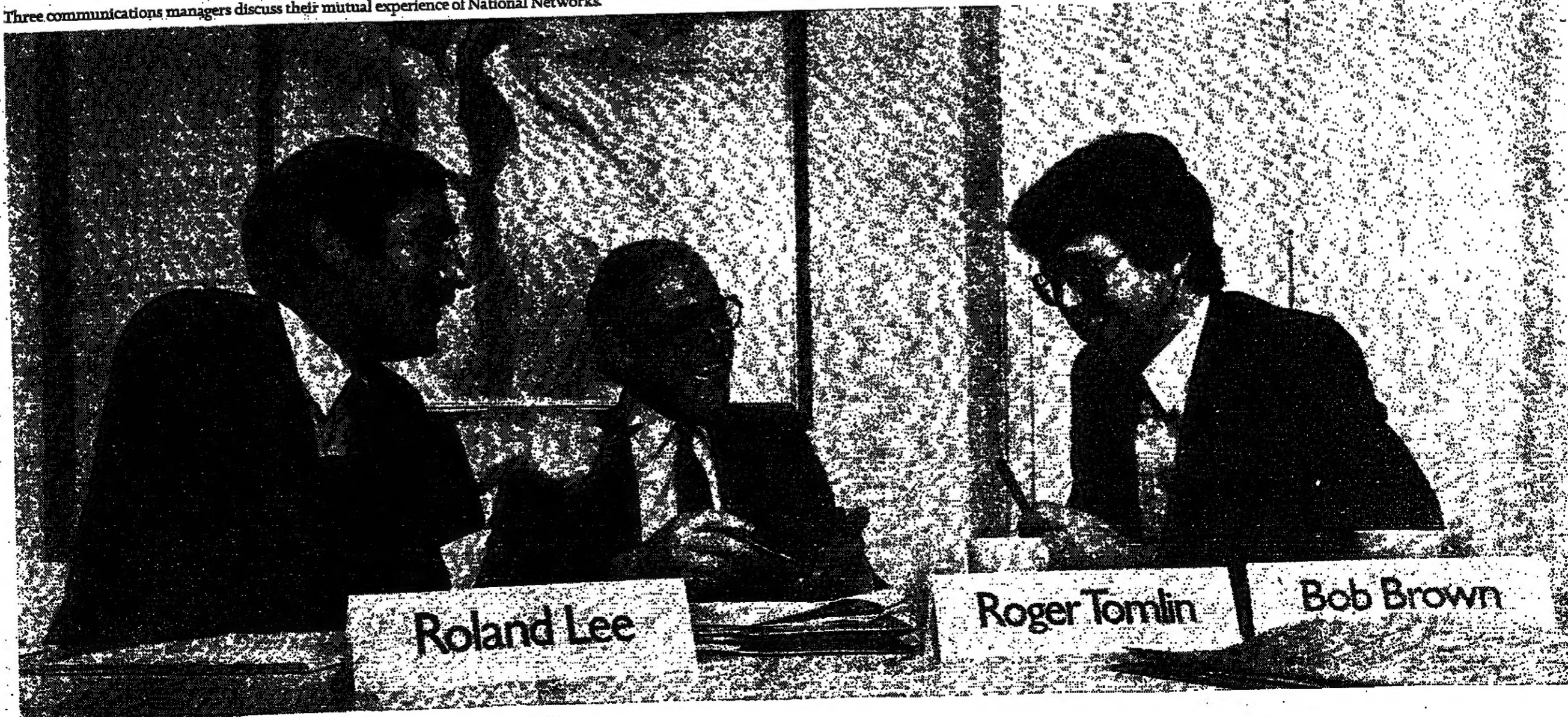


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Three communications managers discuss their mutual experience of National Networks



Roland Lee

Roger Tomlin

Bob Brown

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What does Gallaher think of National Networks' performance? The quotation above sums it all up.

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Stephen Sprouse was the shock of the week in an East Village club, a psychedelic flash away from the old Warhol factory. Sprouse gave a strong show filled with images of the Sixties - doe eyes, fringed hair, mini dresses and rocker jackets. Andy Warhol himself was in the exuberant audience who

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THE TIMES DIARY

People's bureau

The first formal meeting between Westminster and Buenos Aires since the Falklands conflict is about to be held in New York, between an all-party delegation led by Tory MP Sir Anthony Kershaw, chairman of the Commons select committee on foreign affairs, and Argentina's ambassador to the United Nations, Carlos Muniz. It has clearly upset Mrs Thatcher. Yesterday a Foreign Office spokesman said the exchange had "nothing to do with the Government" and urged me to "read nothing whatever" into it.

Tory backbencher Peter Bottomley, who in March signed a motion pressing for the resumption of relations, takes a different view. "In a democracy, people don't wait for governments to resume formal talks," he says. "The Foreign Office, meanwhile, continues to communicate with Buenos Aires in more coded ways than Mrs Thatcher wants to speak she contacts the British ambassador in Switzerland via the FO; he tells the Swiss Foreign Ministry, which passes the message to the Swiss ambassador in Buenos Aires, who in turn..."

Country strife

Unseemly feuds are not confined to Fleet Street's lower reaches. The gentle air at *Country Life* has turned distinctly ungentlemanly following a confrontation between journalists and management over their editor's conflict of roles. While continuing as editor, Michael Wright was recently appointed "publisher" by IPC of both *Country Life* and the *Antique Dealer and Collectors Guide*. His staff said he cannot be both editor and publisher. Wright has apparently agreed to do the decent thing and vacate his editorial chair of 14 years. I hardly needed to speak to him for confirmation. When I rang, his secretary asked if I was an applicant for his job.

The right stuff

A year's all-American transformation is being offered by the Walt Disney Organization, which is recruiting young Britons for its World Showcase Fellowship Program in Florida. "Advanced" English-speaking applicants "must be willing to adhere to the Walt Disney World Appearance Standards": Males: hair cut over ears, no facial hair, no bracelets, necklaces, earrings or hairpieces. Females: natural hairstyles, no coloring, bleaching, streaking, no wigs or hairpieces, no shadow or eyeliner, no bracelets or necklaces. "Finally, 'no personal limitations'." Could Goofy's days be numbered?

A friend just back from the Fisherman's Cove Hotel in the Seychelles tells me he reported the theft of his bathing trunks to the manager. To be told: "We've had a lot of trouble with the local dog." My friend helpfully asked if he should report back if he spots a dog wearing his trunks.

Saints' days

The Marquess of Tavistock tells me the three Hell's Angels who are squatting in his former gamekeeper's cottage, at Woburn, are pretty tame stuff. The angels, whom he is trying to evict in court next week, have behaved like saints since they moved in over Easter. They have even dumped their Harley Davidsons for an old car. "I have wilder chimpanzees," he says.

Authors' writes

Publishers are said to be having hysterics over Faber and Faber's promise to give authors the right to renegotiate their contracts every 10 years. "In this company," said the selfless Faber, "there was not one dissenting voice." Hardly surprising: no fewer than seven Faber board members and employees are themselves authors - among them Craig Raine, the poet, Donald Mitchell, the music historian, Robert McCrum, thriller writer, and Pete Townshend of The Who, head of the rock list, who is now working on a novel.

BARRY FANTONI



"Do you suppose it's a move to get us used to paying VAT on take-aways?"

Thurnham clean

Tory MP Peter Thurnham swears he will tell nothing but the truth when he is quizzed about his expenses by the Commons select committee on employment next week. He has agreed to be wired up to a polygraph as part of the committee's examination of the use of lie detectors to vet GCHQ staff. He tells me he expects to face "the sort of questions designed to make you twitch", including "Have you ever fiddled your expenses?" and "Have you ever told a lie?" Curiously, no one else on the committee has volunteered.

Oxford University has nearly 100 separate libraries. Between them they take four or five subscriptions to a single periodical. *Nuclear Physics* (cost £1,500 a year each). What would an efficiency scrutinizer from Lord Rayner's school have to say?

Obviously, rationalize. The university could continue to function perfectly well as a top-flight academic institution with fewer book collections and, say, only two subscriptions to *Nuclear Physics*.

But that judgment means confronting Oxford University Library Board, the Curators of the Bodleian Library and any number of irate fellows of colleges - in other words a power structure of antiquity and sinuous strength. Some would say the structure is part of Oxford's beauty. Many, in the tradition that gives Britain's universities a strikingly high international reputation, would question whether management consultants are entitled to ask such questions, for what begins as an issue of resource allocation quickly becomes a vexed issue of research and the lineaments of knowledge.

Multiplying this example and the points of principle it raises by the sum of British universities (not all as labyrinthine as Oxford, admittedly) and you get some idea of the minefield facing Sir Alex Jarratt's committee on the efficiency of universities, which meets for the first time this afternoon.

Jarratt was chosen by the vice-chancellors with government approval as an open-minded corporation man who is patently not the Prime Minister's feared expert on Whitehall efficiency, Lord Rayner. On the face of it he will set his committee of academics and industrialists a much less fraught agenda. The Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals has done a deal with Sir Keith Joseph in which they support his plan for sample efficiency studies à la Rayner in half

David Walker describes the difficulties facing the Jarratt committee on academic efficiency, which meets for the first time today

Bringing the universities to financial book

A dozen universities, but matters educational and academic are excluded in order to preserve the independence of academic judgment.

The official plan is for Hay, Coopers Lybrand, and Peat Marwick with the other consultants to be brought in to study purchasing, cleaning and computer application - no more nor less than the first generation of Rayner scrutinies in Whitehall and indeed no more than most universities have been doing for some time through shared O and M (organization and management units) or in-house efficiency studies such as those done by Imperial College's department of management science.

This is anodyne stuff which will neither save much money nor - this is the view of many university administrators - ask the interesting question. Administration in universities accounts for less than 7 per cent of current spending; the bulk of the outlays relate one way or another to academic work.

One academic registrar said: "Once again the CVCP has given the impression of having something to

University Grants Committee as a member of his group. This will presumably mean no discussion about what many universities consider the hopeless quality of UGC decision taking and the bureaucracy it demands.

"Try and sell the freedom of our own land to a company located on our science park," said a Midlands university registrar. "It's a morass of UGC and Treasury restrictions."

How much will Jarratt's scrutineers be allowed to say about the role of vice-chancellors themselves - few of them managers in the conventional sense? Just as Whitehall's permanent secretaries have resisted Rayner-inspired attempts to give them a job description (and so begin assessing performance) so vice-chancellors are likely to fend off any efforts to pin down what their role is or might become.

Jarratt is a start. "At the minimum, as an outside, impartial look at the way we run our business this scrutiny will be worthwhile," says Imperial's pro-rector.

But is the exercise as now conceived also a lost opportunity to give the universities - many still floundering like butterflies wounded in the 1981 round of cuts - managerial backbone to enable them to fight their corner? Academic management is complex; administering precious creativity and providing for scholarship is still an ill-understood art.

In his recent book on the university crisis, Peter Scott worried that a "meta-language of bureaucratic command" might come to fill the vacuum created by the disappearance of a common intellectual language in the modern specialist universities.

Perhaps. But might a rigorous approach to efficiency and effectiveness in academic institutions not also provide a rallying point for the universities in reasserting their important place in the changing economy and society of Britain?

Roger Scruton

A call to alms we must resist

"Love thy neighbour," said Christ; and "who is my neighbour?" came the prompt reply. Because there is no simple answer, Christ responded with a famous parable. The Samaritan extends his help to a stranger; but he acts under the impulse of compassion, and without a rational plan. Maybe he should have looked around first, lest there were some more needy victim? Maybe, refusing their help, the priest and the Levite conserved it for someone more deserving? Maybe it would have been better to leave the victim to die, so as to draw attention to the plight of the oppressed peasants who had been driven to kill him? Maybe the assailants were terrorists, engaged in a "war of liberation", and their victim a pampered member of the ruling class?

Political calculation, when it intrudes into charitable motive, also destroys it. The clear obligations of the heart become clouded by the monstrous ambitions of the brain. The help we can understand and offer seems unreal; while the help which lies beyond our understanding, and for the sake of which we must take up arms in a never-ending struggle, seems uniquely worthy of our energies.

English law excludes political activity from its definition of charity. But, as the example shows, every act of charity may be given a political interpretation. Hence every charitable foundation may be "politicized" by those who see no distinction between the relief of suffering and the "struggle" for a better world.

A most instructive example is provided by War on Want: a charity ostensibly devoted to the relief of poverty. Many who give money for this admirable purpose may be surprised at the organization's own interpretation of its calling.

At War on Want's annual general meeting in 1983, the main speaker was a member of the central committee of Swapo and the theme throughout was that of "struggle by peasants and workers' organizations to overcome inequality and oppression; and so on. It is not difficult, now, to interpret these expressions, or to understand what might be involved in War on Want's support for "groups organizing for change" and groups "disseminating alternative news". Nor is it hard to understand the real meaning of the general secretary's closing remarks, in which he emphasized the need to develop links with both the peace and labour movements, which he saw as War on Want's "natural allies".

As a matter of fact War on Want is extremely suspicious of the charitable motive, which, by relieving present suffering, perpetuates the status quo. It prefers the broader view and in particular the "struggle"

for radical social and political change. It often says as much. In 1981, it launched a campaign against unemployment, that was justified by the then general secretary in the following terms:

"We realize that the unemployed do not want the old-fashioned kind of charity handouts, paternalism and charities doing the job governments should do."

Old-fashioned paternalists who, like the Good Samaritan, step in and do the government's business, only impede the process of political transformation, to which the energies of War on Want are now largely directed.

War on Want gives active support to the "people of Namibia" in their struggle against "South African oppression", and to the "refugees" who over the last few years have gathered in neighbouring Angola, very often with automatic rifles on their shoulders. And those seeking to help this cause are invited by War on Want to contact organizations that work for the violent overthrow of the present political order in Southern Africa.

The organization was particularly active in Grenada, before the US invasion, and provided £250,000 for "development" projects. A statement issued by the vice-chairman, regretting the overthrow of the revolutionary paradise implied that the "development" projects promoted by War on Want benefits enormously from the benign supervision provided by a single-party Marxist state. In a recent Newsletter, War on Want has declared that it does not provide emergency relief, "but", it asks rhetorically, "should we refuse to give urgent support when organizations such as Swapo or the Revolutionary Democratic Front in El Salvador ask us to do so?"

Someone who believes that the people of El Salvador will be happier under the rule of the "Revolutionary Democratic Front" - as happy, say, as the people of Cuba - may wish to support this cause. But is it charitable? The answer to that question is provided by another: what if the belief is wrong? What if the people of El Salvador would be less happy after the Revolutionary Democratic Front has seized power?

The worth of the Samaritan's action was unquestionable. He sought not to change the world, but to relieve the suffering of one individual within it. He did not calculate the profit and the loss, nor did he need to; for what he did was good in itself, and required no further justification. Can the same be said of the actions of War on Want? And, if not, should it enjoy the privileges accorded to a charity?

The author is editor of the *Salisbury Review*.

Mark Goyder

Petty cash - and pettiness

Strange and paradoxical are the ways of our parliamentary democracy. One moment, elected representatives - or that portion of them still awake at the unsocial hour when these big decisions are taken - vote through a Consolidated Fund Bill approving billions of pounds' worth of public expenditure. The next day they show an eye for detail by interrogating ministers on questions as detailed as their departments' annual consumption of paperclips.

A minister who knows that he is likely to face this kind of detailed question goes back to his permanent secretary and says: "Do what you like with the balance, but for God's sake remove the skins from my path", and the permanent secretary sets up a formidable machinery of screening and auditing to ensure that his political master is free from risk.

Departments, quangos and voluntary bodies receiving public money are interrogated: their every receipt is minutely examined. Risky ventures likely to cause the minister embarrassment are identified, and Parliament is alerted. His restraint is interposed. He is accountable; his actions are conditioned by the fear of detailed scrutiny.

And what a price we pay for this petty form of accountability. The result is public spending without risk - and since experiment involves risk, that means also public spending without experiment.

One of the most imaginative of the many voluntary organizations entrusted by the Manpower Services Commission with spending money on youth training is Community Service Volunteers. This organization has pioneered the Springboard programmes which offer training opportunities associated with community service. The trainees might be placed in a day nursery, a centre for the elderly, or a school for the mentally handicapped. Or they might be assigned to one of the teams carrying out a costly commercial exercise under the eye of a trained project leader.

In one scheme in Kent the painting and decorating team of five trainees was entrusted with a job in the bell tower of Rochester Cathedral. "It's fundamental work," said the project leader, "stripping things down and starting again. We have had to do it in careful stages, and that has meant the trainees have learnt more about working in a team. We began with a budget, worked out what we needed, and brought it together..."

Mr Tom King, the Employment Secretary, may not have known about that side of the Springboard Kent project. Unfortunately, two years ago other trainees produced a tasteless cartoon, insulting to the

Royal Family, and he heard all about that. The whole of Springboard Kent is now closed, with the loss of 200 places.

The demise of Springboard Kent is one illustration of the dangers of ministerial risk avoidance. There seems to be no recognition of the insurance principle that if you set out to do anything worthwhile you must expect accidents. I wonder how much experiences such as the Kent "scandal" have influenced Tom King in his more recent decision to cut back by some 20,000 the number of "Mode B1" places in the Youth Training Scheme - that is, in schemes such as Springboard where the trainee works for a community project and not a commercial employer.

Speaking as an employer of a YTS trainee, I would say that employer-based experience is fine for youngsters with some initiative, but it lights up few fuses for those less interested and self-reliant. The employer looks for someone who will learn by getting on with the job, and a typical supervisor does not have the time to talk to the trainee and find out that he has filled out with his parents or that his one enthusiasm in life is motorbikes.

While employer-based schemes draw out those who are most likely to make it without help, the community-based B1 schemes have an enviable record of enthusing the school dropout who sees no point in sorting biscuits on a conveyor belt, but does come to life as an assistant in a nursery school, or learning his or her way round the stock control of an Oxfam shop, where an individual contribution clearly counts.

If the minister were really interested in helping with the transition from school to work, there would be no better scheme to promote than those which help the people least likely to make the transition on their own. As the all-party Peal Affairs Group has pointed out, these are the most likely to be tempted into crime if they do not make this transition.

"The transition from school to work." What does that mean to the 16-year-old, bored with the classroom, unqualified and without a spark of passion for the plastics factory down the road? There's more to it than clocking in on time and learning to "keep your nose clean".

We don't spend billions on youth training merely to help employers screen out the top 10 per cent. To justify our investment, youth training has to bring youngsters of all abilities to life at work, and bring work to life for all levels of ability. That is the kind of effort for which we should hold the Mr King accountable.

David Felton on the unrest over the public-private wage gap



Teachers out. It will be the same at many schools tomorrow

make up at the very least half of the lost ground.

But strong signals are not confined to the teachers, civil servants and nurses. Industrial action is threatened on the railways and in the Post Office, where 4 per cent offers have been rejected, and British Telecom's refusal to drop the principle of a differential offer, which would give less to some grades which are said to be overpaid, has led to difficult negotiations.

It is difficult to predict how the Government will react to the growing union restiveness, although immediate attention will focus on the teachers and civil servants who are more or less side by side at the head of the pay queue. Many schools are expected to be closed tomorrow by the teachers' one-day strike; it could presage a long and damaging campaign in which children might be prevented from sitting examinations.

It is now generally accepted that if the present rejected 4.5 per cent offer to the teachers had been tabled two weeks earlier, it probably would have been accepted in England and Wales, as it has been by Scottish teachers. The poor handling of the negotiations by local authority employers immediately before the teaching unions' annual conferences has created a situation where both sides are entrenched and the unions are flexing their not often-used industrial muscle.

The teachers point to pay comparisons throw up by a joint pay survey conducted with the employers to show how their pay has slipped since 1974. The overall average teaching salary of £9,240 is set against £10,993 for accountants and £11,644 for electrical engineers and £15,875 (including allowances) for police inspectors. Police pay is a touchy subject for all public service workers who have seen the police and other "privileged" groups such as the armed forces and firemen maintain high increases, while their pay has been held down.

Police pay increased by 8.4 per cent last autumn while firemen had a 7.8 per cent rise thanks to their index-linked pay formula. Indeed, police and fire inspectors now rank number three in the white-collar pay league, with average weekly earnings of £284. By comparison, the average Civil Service salary is £2,071 although the range rises from around £3,000 for a clerical assistant to £24,000 for assistant secretaries.

The Civil Service unions, who are expecting the Treasury to make some improvement this week in the Government's 3 per cent pay offer, are pressing for 7 per cent increases, which represent the upper quarter of the range of pay rises in comparable private sector jobs.

In response, the Government has laid great stress in negotiations on

the need to look at developments in other areas of public pay, notably the local authority manual workers' 4.5 per cent deal.

Finally there are the one million National Health Service workers who have been placed by the Government firmly at the end of the present pay queue. The Prime Minister's announcement that the nurses and midwives pay review body will not report for a month indicates that ministers would like the Civil Service and teaching pay negotiations out of the way before talking to the nurses.

The review body is thought to have recommended increases of between 6 and 9 per cent for the 450,000 nurses and midwives, and although there have been reports that Mrs Thatcher will try to reduce the increase to the 3 per cent limit, such action would create a political storm and could provoke even the most non-militant nurses.

The problem that the Government faces with the nurses, as with the Civil Service, is how to accommodate increases of more than 3 per cent in cash limits. If the nurses were given 6 per cent, that would double the £82m allowed in cash limits and wipe out this year's real growth in NHS spending. In the Civil Service a 4 per cent increase can be squeezed into a 3 per cent limit by leaving vacancies unfilled for a period, but anything above that would cause difficulties.

With these groups, who together make up 2 million of the workforce, the growing problems have all resulted from some form of pay comparability under a government which, burdened with the Clegg and Civil Service awards when it came to office in 1979, set its face firmly against comparability for the future. That small U-turn may lead to Mrs Thatcher's hold on the pay purse strings being loosened, however slight.

diminutive stars. The manager's name was Sr Sordo Lopez, which, as every discerning soul knows, is the name of a cloying sweet white wine.

The paper's football *novus* may have been sadly jaded, but its nose for wine retained a brisk twitch, and all subsequent reports on Palmerston FC were consigned to the pending index. One has to assume that after a few weeks the correspondent got withdrawal symptoms, for there came a spate of phone calls in funny voices asking what had become of the team. The common characteristic of all these voices was that it sounded like the sports reporter of a rival paper, an individual with a long history of trying to embarrass the opposition.

In the end Palmerston FC was consigned to an ignominious grave. The paper which had trumpeted their fictitious feats finally sent them on a tour of the Isle of Wight, during which they played two matches, scoring just one goal and conceding 53. There was a disgraceful scene at a Ventnor nightclub, as a result of which the Fairlie twins were arrested and Sr Sordo Lopez deported. And not a single supporter rang in to set the record straight.

Alan Franks

Eleven good men and untrue

even captain of the side. The poor sports editor has to wade through acres of longhand scrawl, in which 10-0 home defeats are somehow portrayed as a combination of bad luck and worse reffing. "Once again, the wind had a really poor match, favouring the opposition for the first 45 minutes and then changing direction on the stroke of half-time."

There are also strange coincidences between the by-line of the report and the apportioning of heroic status: "Despite his two broken legs and partial blindness, goalie Tommy Rourke was once again the saviour of Rambleton Rovers," writes Tommy Rourke. Well, not quite that flagrant, but nearly.

In this landscape of *Wizard* cliché and wild hyperbole, the Palmerston reports were a beacon of literacy. Indented paragraphs, and sub-clauses which did not hijack the sentence. Here too was modesty of such a pitch that "the lads" often got

stick from the correspondent even in the wake of a comfortable victory. Moreover - and it was here that a rat should have been smelt from the start - the reports did not carry a by-line. Still, there could be no question but that they were kosher, and in they went.

Palmerston's correspondent had obviously not read his *Match*, but left prey to vaulting ambition, which o'erleaps itself and falls on the other. So intoxicated was he by the public credibility of his dispatches that he soon pushed the device too far. Not content with filing results which looked more like rugby scores, he stepped up the midfield activities of the twins, C. Fairlie and D. Fairlie, both just 4 ft 11 in tall, to a point at which one of them scored from the halfway line without the ball leaving the turf.

Bucked by the appearance of this report in the paper, he wrote that a top Spanish manager had now flown post-haste to Britain to sign the

Every month 1,000 companies go bust. You can't always blame the economy.

According to a recent report in a financial newspaper, companies go to the wall for all manner of reasons.

In many cases the economy has little to do with it.

Those popular whipping boys, the Government and the unions, don't even get a mention. Nor should we automatically point the finger at the EEC or the microchip.

For the most part, the bald truth is that when companies get into trouble they have only themselves to blame.

Mismanagement of stocks. Lack of capital. Setting up in the wrong location. Lack of trust and communication between managements and their accountants. Too rapid and under-researched expansion. Old-fashioned production techniques. And so on.

The same blunders crop up time and again.

How do level-headed, hard-working businessmen get themselves into such a jam?

HOW MISTAKES ARE MADE

In our experience, it's not just that managements make the wrong decisions.

Increasingly they are making decisions too late.

Usually because they are short of information. Or the information is in the wrong form. Or it's in the wrong place.

What this calls for, we believe, is nothing less than a root and branch reorganisation of working procedures.

And a lot of companies agree with us.

Over 200 of them in Britain are already using Hewlett-Packard office systems to improve their productivity.

Be under no illusions. This goes much further than a computer for the accounts department and a word processor for your secretary.

It's a way of making available at a moment's notice every scrap of information you need to make decisions.

A BETTER WAY OF WORKING.

We'll provide you with the means to create, revise, store, print, retrieve and distribute letters, reports, mailing lists, graphs and charts without moving from a desk or lifting a telephone.

And this refers to material stored not just ten floors below but written five minutes ago in an office on the other side of the world.

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WHERE DO YOU START?

First you have to decide what needs to be done.

And that depends on your type of business, the number of people you employ and how many computers you have already.

(Incidentally, Hewlett-Packard computers are compatible with other makes of computer, so we can usually incorporate those you are currently using into our system.)

Initially, we like to explain in general terms the service we provide.

We'll then invite you to our international headquarters in Berkshire to discuss specific applications and see all our products in action.

It's much more than a demonstration.

Our own business procedure is built around

an Office Automation System, enabling

us to test everything we make in a real working environment.

(Not the case with all our competitors. They don't always practise what they preach.)

Next we like to spend two or three days looking at the way you

work, studying your office layout and talking to your staff.

Up to this point it won't have cost you a penny.

If you wish to take things further, we'll carry out more studies and present our findings in the form of an analysis report.

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With our reputation clearly on the line, you can bet we make sure we get it right.

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In a recent poll, readers of Fortune Magazine placed us ahead of our rivals on a number of counts: the quality of our products, the service we provide, new ideas and our ability to attract and keep the most talented people.

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We have training and support personnel in 25 service centres in Britain. They are on call twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

Sooner or later, all companies will get around to investing in Office Automation.

The worry is that your competitors may have decided to do it sooner.

Either phone us on 01-935 6109 during office hours or telex our Office Automation Programme Manager, on 848805.

Or for your information pack, write to Enquiry Section TT1, Office Automation Systems, Hewlett-Packard Limited, Eskdale Road, Winnersh, Wokingham, Berkshire RG11 5DZ.



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FT STOCK INDICES	
GOVERNMENT SECURITIES	81.02 (81.40)
FIXED INTEREST	85.95 (85.69)
INDUSTRIAL ORDINARY	215.4 (222.8)
GOV. DIVIDEND YIELD	6.51 (6.71)
GOV. EARNINGS YIELD	4.77 (4.29)
GOV. P.E. RATIO (NET)	9.89 (9.82)
GOV. P.E. RATIO (NL)	12.29 (12.29)
GOV. P.E. RATIO (NL)	11.62 (11.70)

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, April 30. Dealings End, May 11. Contango Day, May 14. Settlement Day, May 21

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

Capitalization and week's change

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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Leaving the debt game while you're ahead

In as much privacy as its European participants can achieve, a seminar of central bankers in New York this week is discussing the next phase of the international debt crisis. Of course, such foresight is admirable. Indeed, the central banks' management - and the Bank of England's in particular - of the human and technical problems involved in the debt drama so far has been more than admirable. It is possible, just the same, that these skilful, managing central bankers are now being misled by their past success.

Recipe for 1984 is same again

To take stock: since 1982, when banks were forced to turn their attention from the hard currency shortages of East European governments to the huge debt mountains of Latin America, the scale of debt rescheduling has multiplied. Last year, about 30 developing countries were engaged in negotiations with their creditors, the result of which was, according to calculations by the International Monetary Fund, to reduce their debt service payments by about \$19,000m. They did not get away with an easy ride: in 1983, the developing world was forced to cut back its imports by \$34,000m, at considerable cost to its weakest members but default was averted, and central bankers breathed again.

With accumulated rescheduling expertise, the recipe for 1984 appears to be: the same again. Perhaps another \$19,000m will be smoothed off debt payments due this year, and pushed into the future. So the central bankers have turned their attention to that future, when another debt bulge threatens in the late 1980s. Meanwhile, the borrowers should find life a little easier: rising world demand should increase their export earnings, while the austerity measures of the past year are beginning to yield an improvement in their international reserves.

With more time to plan, the central bankers and their governments have been dreaming up fancier schemes. The American favourite appears to be a "cap" on interest rates paid by developing-country governments. The idea is rather like that made popular by Mrs Thatcher in the British general election of 1974, when she proposed a cap on mortgage rates. In both cases, the argument is that certain classes of borrowers deserve protection from movements in market rates, which are quite outside their control. Since much developing-country borrowing is at variable rates, the one percentage point by which American prime rate has risen this past month could cost them as much as \$3.5 billion a year.

But the idea makes as little sense in the international market-place as it did in the British context. American enthusiasm is understandable; the Administration is keen to defuse explosive international anger at the further rise in US interest rates. It is not, however, clear why other governments - through the international institutions - or the private banks should be asked to pay for the consequences of American economic policy by stumping up their share of interest-rate subsidies.

What is more, the effect of such a

scheme would be to channel yet more of the available finance into the hands of the big borrowers, where too much of it is going already. The process of "successful" rescheduling has been that a rising share of international bank lending has gone to half a dozen big borrowers. Truly voluntary lending to other Third-World countries has virtually dried up.

The sufferers from this contraction are not just those poor countries, but the world as a whole. The sudden contraction in American Third World struggle to rebuild reserves, has turned American banks into net borrowers from the rest of the world. This, in turn, means the Third World is involuntarily financing the American budget deficit, while - as Simon Coates argues in a special research paper today - the drying-up of American lending is helping to push up the dollar.

It is at this point in the argument that central bankers should stop worrying about the future and ask themselves whether present policies are working to the benefit of the Third World as a whole. With Mexico, and with Brazil, there is not much doubt that the massive concentration of resources was worth the cost, and that the adjustment programmes initiated by both countries were a fair - and even an excessive - price paid in terms of national suffering. But there is a rather different test case simmering in the shape of Argentina. The argument for generosity, or at least flexibility, by the creditors is the same as in every previous rescheduling: that if agreement is not reached, the ripple of default through the western banking system will be costlier than coming to terms.

Ripple of default in Latin America

But there are limits to that argument, as it is possible for some government or other to overstep them. A far more difficult question to settle in advance is the effect of default in one country on the government of another, attempting to hold its electorate to an unpopular adjustment course. For fear of a ripple of default through Latin America, the West's central bankers have rightly urged their commercial colleagues way down the path of negotiation. Contingency plans are necessary for the day that path proves too long.

Much planning for the future should take the unpopular form of resisting protectionism in the industrial world and encouraging direct investment in the developing world. Neither process needs seminars in New York to prove its necessity, only political will in the two halves of the world. Among the central bankers' schemes, the most sensible is the plan for insurance of bank lending put forward by Mr Henry Wallich of the Federal Reserve Board. It could be financed by the banks themselves; and it would help to restart the flow of commercial loans to countries which were too small or too poor to have borrowed the entry fee for today's expensive game of bluff.

Sarah Hogg
Economics Editor

ORDINARY SHARES

Opening time for brewery investors

In just two months, the brewery sector has shown an outstandingly good performance with a rise of 21.1 per cent, considerably better than the 8.3 per cent improvement in the All Share Index. Having been placed very near the bottom of the league tables in the first two months of 1984, the sector is now very much up with the front runners. The causes include post-Budget relief, further signs of sales recovering and the added bonus of a "Brewers' Easter".

These influences favour sales but it would be wrong to overlook the proposed Corporation Tax changes announced in the Budget which will be of tremendous benefit, given that brewers invested heavily in outlets but suffered from harsh discrimination in terms of their capital allowances. For most brewers net profits will rise, as the tax changes progress. Some see rises of up to a third above the levels which would have been experienced on the existing basis.

The mere fact of having achieved a good performance in just two months should not detract from the fact that, even after this rise, the sector is showing a relative decline of 4.6 per cent over the last 12 months. Thus, in some senses, the visibly superb performance since the end of February should not be taken to imply that the "fun" is over, but perhaps rather more that the "fun" has just started.

The next "Brewers' Results Season" is due to commence. Virtually every company in the industry is due to announce either interim or preliminary figures over the next eight weeks. In the main, these results should show very satisfactory profit rises, although there will be some disappointments.

More importantly, the omens are encouraging for rather better growth in the second half of the brewing year to the end of September, 1984. The prospect of good results has been fuelled

by a resurgence of interest following the takeover of Border by Marston on terms that many view as very generous to Border's shareholders, and more recently the acquisition of Cameron from Ellerman by Scottish & Newcastle.

This seems a sound move by Scottish, but Messrs. D. R. and F. H. Barclay (the owners of Ellerman for just six months) have clearly proved that their purchase was not simply "an absolute snip" but more realistically "a bargain of unparalleled magnitude".

Against a background of good news, some companies have been affected by strikes and disputes among their customers. In this context, mention should be made of those companies with a "coal mining" interest. Until last year such companies were, relatively speaking, basking in the pleasant backdrop of high levels of prosperity and the rising disposable incomes of their customers.

However, they are now suffering, initially following the miners' overtime ban which clearly syphoned off a lot of "beer money" and then more recently from the further difficulties in the coal mining industry.

In this category might fall both Hardys & Hanson and Mansfield. The shares of both companies have shown a relative decline in the past year of 47.6 per cent and 37.9 per cent respectively. Neither might resume any share price supremacy unless/until the prosperity status quo of coal mining areas is restored and debt levels of their existing customers repaid.

In a sector viewed as attractively priced, as many believe the brewery sector is, it often pays to look for the poor performers in the hope or belief

that their share prices have rather more catching up to do. This particular method of selection would, however, suggest a number of companies which are still quite highly rated and, for the present, does not seem to be particularly apt.

The running is still very much with the major brewers. Whitbread, with preliminary results due shortly, has recovered some of its earlier share price setback (in relative terms) but the rating might still reflect an element of concern (unjustified) about past acquisitions as well as the recent seeming spate of new purchases, changes

within the company and the apparent lack of much hard fact about the company's position and prospects. Priced at 175p and valued at 13 times historic earnings, there would seem to be scope for further recovery and the ample asset support, with a net asset value probably in excess of 230p per share, is an additional bonus.

At the other end of the spectrum, mention should be made of a relatively new entrant to the sector - Brewmaster, which entered the USM last November. The company was formed in 1973 as a wholesaler of beer and wine kits with soft drink concentrates added to the product range in 1979. In the last six years there has been a spectacular, nearly tenfold, rise in profits brought about by the markets supplied by the company growing rapidly and market share itself advancing.

Future volume growth is expected to exceed 20 per cent per annum. Although there is the ever-present risk of some form of taxation being introduced on home brewing and wine making this could, in practical terms, be difficult if not impossible to implement.

Priced at 44p, Brewmaster

The dollar spurred ahead in European and New York foreign exchange markets yesterday reaching a record high against the pound and its best levels against the Deutsche mark for three months.

The familiar spectre of rising US interest rates while the threat of industrial action in the German engineering industry and the absence of significant intervention by the German central bank contributed to the mark's weakness.

Trade was an and volatile with the important London markets closed for the May Day bank holiday. After rising strongly in the Far East, the dollar soon breached DM2.76 against the Deutsche mark in European trading before closing

in Frankfurt at DM2.7590 - 3.8 pence above its close in London at the end of last week.

However, United States markets soon took up the running, chasing the dollar up to DM2.7757 by early afternoon in New York and dealers were predicting that the US currency could soon be testing DM2.80.

Sterling was on the sidelines with London closed and was not under any great selling pressure. But the dollar's advance pushed it down as low as \$1.3860 in the US markets. This compares with an all-time low during London trading of \$1.3910 on January 9 this year.

Sterling held up reasonably well on its trade-weighted index during last week but its performance on the exchanges will be closely watched today

for any sign of weakness which could add to pressure for a rise in interest rates.

Concern was mounting towards the end of last week that the clearing banks will soon respond to upward moves in money market rates by increasing their base lending rates to 9 per cent from 8.5 per cent, or 8.75 per cent in the case of Barclays.

Today's April money supply figures are expected to be a crucial influence. Some analysts believe that if money supply growth emerges in line with the gloomier predictions of an increase in £M3 in April of more than 1 per cent, then a rise in bank base rates may be unavoidable.

The recent comments from Dr Henry Kaufman of Salomon

Brothers that US interest rates could move spectacularly higher later this year or next, were still helping to push the dollar higher yesterday and Eurodollar rates were also edging higher, widening the gap between European and dollar interest rates.

Further signs of the US administration's concern over the monetary policy of the Federal Reserve Board emerged at the weekend. Mr Donald Regan, US Treasury Secretary, said in a television interview that the Fed may have overreacted in March when it moved to restrict money growth to combat a resurgence in inflation. He said the Fed must supply enough money to keep the recovery going.

Opec quota likely to be held

Demand by some members that the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries' overall production quota of 17.5 million barrels a day should be relaxed was headed off at the weekend at the monitoring committee's meeting in Vienna.

It now seems that Opec's full ministerial meeting in July will again present a united face. Observers expect the official market price of \$29 a barrel to remain unchanged, and that any increase in production quotas will be marginal, perhaps to 18.2 million barrels.

The monitoring committee has avoided making any recommendation on increasing the quotas.

● A GIANT oilfield of more than 100 million barrels of recoverable oil has been found in the Beaufort Sea, about five miles off the coast of Alaska. Shell Oil announced at the weekend. Production should begin in about 10 years.

● J. SAINSBURY, Britain's biggest grocer, was named yesterday the most outstanding international food retailer by the Food Marketing Institute in the United States.

● LORD LEVER is to lead a Commonwealth study of the developing countries' debt problem.

● FOOTWEAR SALES into the trade on an annual comparison rose 7.2 per cent in volume in February, but while imports rose 10.3 per cent British manufacturers delivered only an additional 1.9 per cent into the shops, according to the British Footwear Manufacturers Federation.

● LOW LEVELS of capital investment in some leading British companies are criticized in a survey of capital spending by the 50 largest manufacturing companies published today in *Labour Research*. It says 13 companies, including Hawker Siddeley, Rolls-Royce, British Shipbuilders and Lucas, were investing less than £1,000 a head in 1982-83, compared with an average of £1,642 and the exceptionally high £5,727 per head invested by Ford Motor Company.

British Sugar plans £2m sales push

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

British Sugar, taken over by S & W Berisford about 18 months ago, is adopting a new sales strategy, with £1m allocated for advertising in magazines and as much again on other promotions.

It could increase its already substantial, though often underestimated, share of the £500m British sugar market, but it is also preparing to launch a wider range of products under the company's Silver Spoon brand.

It is a big chance for British Sugar which spent less than 1 per cent of its sales on advertising in the past. But it already claims 62 per cent of the retail market. Its only big rival is Tate & Lyle. The two companies reportedly share about 86 per cent of the industrial market, supplying food manufacturers and soft drink makers.

The sugar market has been



Peter Gibbs
"Biggest advertising campaign"

declining gradually by about 3 per cent a year. In industrial use of sugar, accounting for about two thirds of consumption, soft drink manufacturers have been using more sugar, while bakery products have used less.

Mr Peter Gibbs, the company's marketing and sales director, said: "This will be the biggest ever advertising campaign by a sugar manufacturer."

New satellite proposals

A British company, Britsat, yesterday unveiled proposals to launch two satellites for direct broadcasts to homes in Britain and Ireland.

The plans were disclosed in anticipation of an announcement today from Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, of a go-ahead for the £400m direct broadcasting satellite programme aimed at meeting the

1987 deadline of the Cable and Broadcasting Bill.

Britsat's plan is to have two satellites orbiting the Earth, beaming television pictures to dish aerials outside people's homes.

Britsat is in competition with United Satellites, which is backed by British Telecom, British Aerospace and GEC-Marconi.

THF stake in Savoy draws bids

By Derek Pain

Trusthouse Forte, the catering and hotel group, has had several approaches to buy its holding in the Savoy Hotel group, it was disclosed yesterday. But Lord Forte, THF chairman, emphasized that the stake was not for sale.

One offer came from Mr Ivan F. Boesky, one of New York's most active share traders. He bid £65m for the THF interest, which represents 69 per cent of the capital but because of the Savoy's two-tier voting structure, only 42.3 per cent of the vote.

Most of the THF shareholding is a legacy from a bitter takeover battle in which THF failed to win control of the Savoy three years ago.

Mr Boesky, who is expected in some quarters to make a higher bid, refused from New York yesterday to confirm his interest in the Savoy. He said: "It is not cricket to comment on any such discussion and negotiations that involve third parties." Mr Boesky, who has hotel interests in the US, added: "We have a great deal of respect for the Savoy."

It also emerged yesterday that Mr Boesky approached the Savoy just after THF's bid failed with a plan to merge the Beverly Hotels Corporation where he is a director, with the Savoy. But the deal failed to win the Savoy board's support.

Firms face tax rise

Budget changes in corporation tax may increase the amount of tax paid by companies, leading the Government to cut the annual rate of corporation tax from 35 to 30 per cent. Mr Christopher Jones, group economic adviser, argues in the latest issue of the *Lloyds Bank Economic Bulletin*.

BOARD MEETINGS

TODAY - Interims: Smith and Nephew Associated Companies (first quarter), Akroyd and Smithers, Aranson Group, Frederick Cooper, Five Oaks Investments, MTD (Mandula), Richards. Final: Ambrosia Investment Trust, Barr and Wallace Arnold Trust, British Home Stores, Commercial Bank of the Near East, Costain Group, John Crowther Group, Gammar Booth, Gieves Group, London United Investments, More O'Ferrall, Simon Engineering, Walsby.

TOMORROW - Interims: Associated Paper Industries, Castle (GB), Trafalgar House, Ultramar (first quarter), Final: European Ferries, External Investment Trust, Foster Brothers Clothing, Lee Cooper Group, Oceana Development Investment Trust.

THURSDAY - Interims: AE, BOC Group, Fitch Lovell, GR Holdings, External Investment Trust, Foster Brothers Clothing, Lee Cooper Group, Royal Bank of Scotland, Royal Insurance (quarter), Vaux Breweries, Warner Estate Holdings, Final: James, Seattle, Debenhams, Deansery Inc., John Foster, Gerrard and National, Holt Lloyd International, King and Snaxson, Porter Chadburn, UEL, Ward White Group.

FRIDAY - Interims: Reliant Motor, O'Ferrall, Smith, Final: Tern Consultancy.

STOCK EXCHANGES

Changes on week

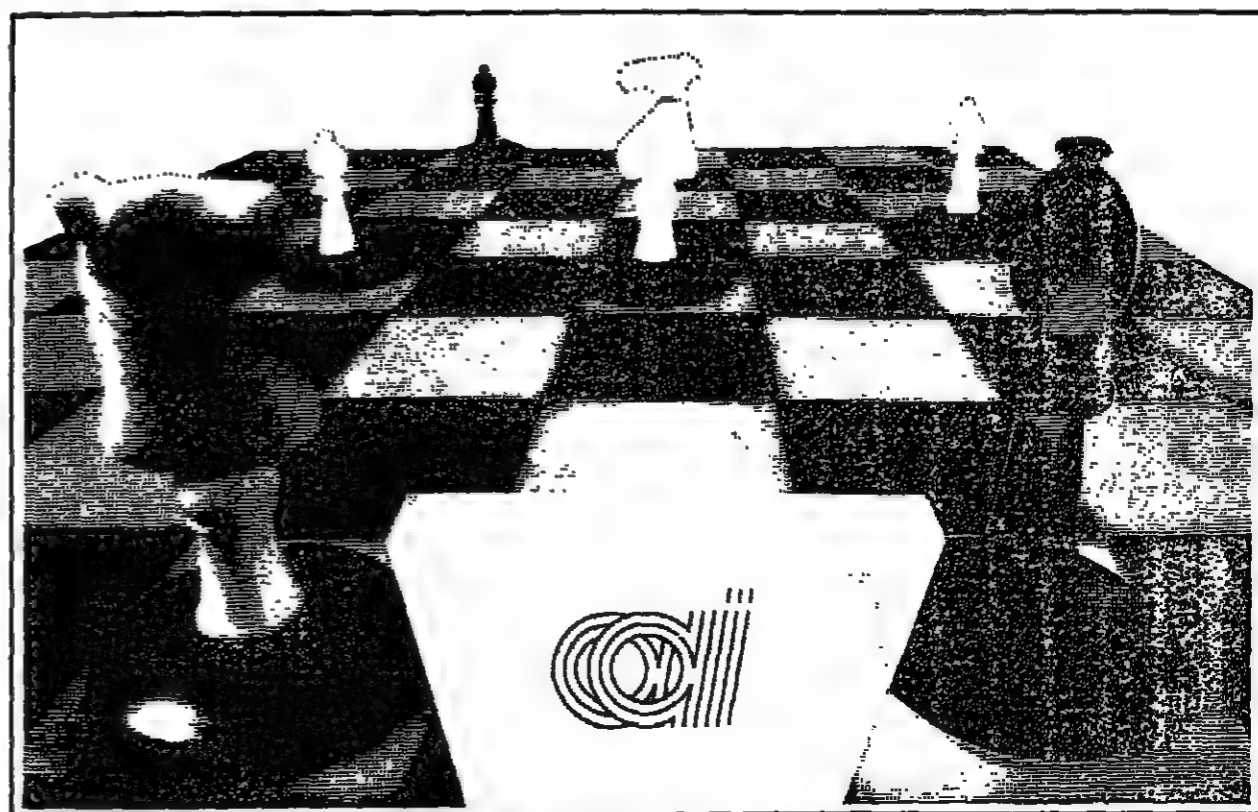
FT-SE 100 Index: 1134.0 down 4.2
FT Index: 915.4 up 7.4
FT 100 Index: 81.02 down 0.96
Billets: 23.27 up 2.281
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 118.34 up 4.34
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average (close) 1165.31 down 9.1
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 11,190.17 up 208.49
Hong Kong: Hang Seng Index 1002.57 down 51.73

CURRENCIES

Changes on week

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.4095 up 80pts
Index 80.5 up 0.8
DM 3.8375 up 0.0425
FF 11.7700 up 0.13
Yen 320.00 up 2.0
Dollar index 129.8 up 0.7
DM 2.7210 up 0.0415
DM 2.7210 up 0.0415
Sterling \$1.4020
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 11,190.17 up 208.49
ECU 0.585904
SDR 0.746527

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A revolution that has yet to happen

Blueprints designed to ensure the survival and expansion of the British and European high technology sectors while ensuring that technology have been in abundance in the last seven days.

The first of those reports to emerge, classified the management of Britain's high technology industries, and effectively called them sluggish and unimaginative. The report prepared by the management and technical consultants PA Technology was based on a five-nation survey conducted for the group by MORI.

PA concluded that British industry was lagging behind its major overseas competitors and that outdated management structures were to blame for the countries poor record on new product development. The conclusions of the study - conducted among 500 company directors - make grim reading.

A promotion of British business

The researchers said that British businessmen were the least likely group in their test to perceive that new technology would have an impact on their new products or industrial processes.

More than half of the British sample recorded that view. The PA team added: "Two-fifths (39 per cent) of British company directors polled had no defined strategy for innovation and the application of new technology, compared with Belgium (22 per cent), West Germany (27 per cent), USA (36 per cent) and Australia (37 per cent)."

Whatever happened to that high level of awareness which was supposed to prevail in British industry about new technology in the wake of Information Technology Year in 1982?

The awareness may still be high but the motivation is low. One minor consolation was that the Americans - and who would have believed that was possible - have been equally sluggish, spoiled by a big, captive home market. That sluggishness is one of the main reasons for the Americans having been caught by the ingenuity of the Japanese in car manufacturing and is now being bettered by their innovation in semiconductor design and computer manufacture.

Britain bears similar scars, which were self-imposed through the manufacturers belief that the Japanese with little, if any, industrial heritage could not compete with the products from the

home of the industrial revolution let alone better them.

PA was explicit. It said: "The results indicate that companies in Britain and the US have failed to recognize that true innovation lies in pushing back the frontiers to develop new technologies to enter totally new markets."

A strategy for innovation that concentrates on developing existing products for existing markets is really a strategy for stagnation or decline. What is needed is a basic change in management attitudes towards innovation. Managers need to develop positive strategies to lead to the cutting edge of technology. That is where the real growth and prosperity lies."

Another major study emerged last week and agreed that it was time for action. The highly detailed work, The

THE WEEK

By Bill Johnstone

Challenge of Innovation, was published by the EEC in association with the journal *Futures*. The study outlined a strategy to help the Community improve its performance in Research and Development (R & D) in high technology.

The strategy was designed to stimulate research in energy, chemicals, agriculture and electronics while ensuring the employment prospects remain high and that the benefits of the technologies accrue to the developing world as well as those countries which are advanced. Space and electronics - two of the principal ingredients of the information technology age - must be given prominence, the report concluded.

It said: "The autonomy of Europe's economy (and the diversity of sociocultural identities in Europe) will, to a great extent depend upon the capacity for scientific and technological innovation of Europeans in the space/electronic

technology sector. Given the extent of technological change which can be forecast in the course of the next 20 years and the amount of investment in R & D which will be needed to 'keep in the race' (amounts which frequently exceed the capacity of individual countries), the Community effort must be major, competitive and credible."

There is already an £850m, five-year Community project called Esprit (European Programme for Research and Development in Information Technologies). Partnerships between European companies are to be the result of this programme and joint research into advanced computer systems is meant to emerge.

But the EEC/Futures strategy called for similar programmes to be initiated, although on a more modest scale and suggested they direct their attention to other high technology areas like robots. The relationship between man and machine is a primary part of the Futures strategy. There is a gap in our knowledge of this area, claimed the report.

A strategy to help Europe do better

"Although we are inundated with speeches and hypotheses about man-machine relationships and about grand, global visions on their transformation and their future, the knowledge actually available on the nature of the new machines, of the new systems, and of the new networks remains fragmentary, and limited to a few privileged circles."

"The vast field of research which goes under the title of industrial relations is equally in need of a profound renewal."

The final plank of the strategy was to contribute to the technical and scientific development of the Third World. By a curious coincidence the UK Council for Computing Development published at the same time its plan on how it will play its part in helping those developing nations.

The council was created about three years ago and active in a series of projects designed to take British expertise in information technology to those in need overseas. The projects which have taken it overseas have been to help Singapore, Sri Lanka, Egypt, Tunisia, India and Swaziland. Missions have gone to Iraq, Kenya, Kuwait, Morocco, Turkey, Philippines and the United Arab Emirates. The activities range from assisting in feasibility studies to running training courses for senior management and computer personnel. One of the latest projects is to capitalise on the expertise which has given Britain a world first - schools computing.

A coordinator to help in schools

The council is acting as a coordinating body to bring together organizations concerned with developing and implementing schools computing in order to create a UK drive for transferring this expertise to the developing countries ready to move in that direction. The council freely admits: "This project has immediate commercial implications in that useful business would result directly from the activity."

The council, although a registered charity, will be promoting British business as other similar organizations do from other countries. Among the council's members are British Telecom, ICL, Ferranti, ICL, National Computing Centre and Universities of Kent, Liverpool and Salford. Says the council: "It is apparent to most countries that computing has an important and valuable part to play in supporting and stimulating development. Economic and social pressures, will all have the effect of creating demand for information processing power."

Europe is therefore in a state of change. It must develop its own information technology industries to keep abreast of the advances being made by competitors while changing its designs and technologies for the production of new items, for equally as new markets. It must also lift the technological awareness of the developing nations so that any intellectual and commercial transfer can be made possible. This week's three strategies might help Britain and its partners along that road.

The law moves to cover print-outs

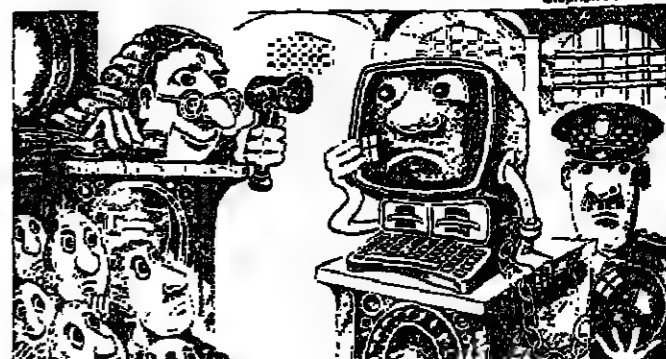
By Alistair Kelman

Four years ago the Court of Appeal decided a case that sent a shudder through the computer industry. It ruled that an automatically generated computer print-out was not an admissible document under the Criminal Evidence Act 1965. (R. v. Pegg, 71 Cr App R 39 [1980]). In response to this the Government is intending to introduce a clause to the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill which, while stemming the gap exposed by Pegg, presents a new problem - how are the courts going to attach the correct weight to evidence made admissible under this new clause?

Under the Bill, computer print-outs will be admissible if a person occupying a responsible position in relation to the operation of the computer certifies to the best of his knowledge and belief that four conditions regarding the computer and the print-out are satisfied. The print-out must have been produced by the computer during a normal working period. Second that it was produced in the ordinary course of its activities.

Third, that appropriate security measures were in force for preventing unauthorized interference with the computer and that the computer was operating properly. And fourth, that the information contained in the statement reproduces or is derived from information supplied to the computer in the ordinary course of its activities.

The first and second conditions appear to exclude the situation where, after a fraud has occurred in a business, investigating auditors run audit software and produce print-



outs. These print-outs will be produced after the alleged offence has taken place by running special audit software which will check master files for insertion of fraudulent data such as non-existent suppliers, will produce its own totals from entries contained in the files which may differ significantly from the client's totals if false data is in the files and will recalculate certain program logic routines to reveal the insertion of unauthorized logic.

Though audit software is today a key investigating tool, it appears that print-outs produced by investigating auditors would be inadmissible. Since the Bill has been published software houses have shown particular interest in the meaning to be ascribed to "appropriate security measures" to prevent unauthorized interference with the computer. It is not clear what is the minimum level of security that will be required for computer installations. Undoubtedly the use of the term appropriate is meant to imply that the standard is meant to vary with the sensitivity and value of the data stored.

However, guesses on what should be "appropriate measures" vary from expert to expert and with increasing computer literacy among young people it is difficult not to question the adequacy of security in many systems. Clearly, if the security in a system has been breached, it will be hard for the person putting forward computer evidence to be able to swear that security is "adequate".

The requirement that the computer was working properly raises several issues. In some small businesses the person in charge of the computer has no idea what it is doing, how it is doing it or whether it is working properly. The Bill gets around this problem by requiring a person occupying a responsible position in relation to the operation of the computer to certify to the best of his knowledge and belief that the computer was working properly. The fact that he may have no knowledge of the operation of the computer but can certify that it is working properly is ignored.

But when the reliability of computer-produced information is in issue, a serious problem arises. Generally speaking, lawyers - when presented with a computer print-out containing latent error - do not know what questions to ask of computing personnel. So the only effective protection against erroneous computer records coming before the courts seems to be a framework of professional standards in the computer industry and recognition of the fact that there is a danger of unreliable data being supplied by computer systems as evidence without such standards.

It is hoped that rules of court made under this Bill will state that - no evidence from a computer system will be admitted in criminal proceedings unless and until a judge, after studying a lengthy statement dealing with the areas from which the computer system could produce errors in the computer print-out, has ruled that the computer system in question has passed a prima facie test of reliability.

£4½m later, nobody calls her crazy

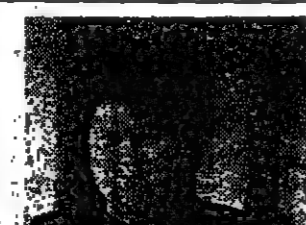
By Roger Woolnough

THE words come tumbling out. The penell dashes across the page, sketching a diagram. It snaps, and is instantly replaced by a red felt-tip. Soon the paper is covered with a confusion of lines, words and numbers, to be joined by child-like drawings of telephones and computers. Jean Yates is talking about Unix.

Without planning it, she has become the self-appointed prophet of Unix, the operating system developed by American Telephone & Telegraph and now being adopted by increasing numbers of computer companies. She runs a market research company in California, Yates Ventures, which has acquired over 100 clients who pay subscriptions of \$1600 apiece to hear what she has to say.

"We tend to be more speculative and provide more analysis than is available from other firms," Jean Yates says. "We jog everybody loose."

For her, jogging people loose started at Christmas 1980, when she told a user group that



worldwide sales of Unix-related hardware and software would be worth \$6,000m (£4,200m) by 1986. "I was known as that crazy woman," she recalls.

"Crazy like a fox. Her latest forecast, enshrined in a weighty volume crammed with numbers and graphs, has increased the figure to a precise \$8,180m, and this projection is considered conservative."

Like others caught up in the microcomputer maelstrom, Jean Yates started at something else. She was selling biochemicals and doing research when her employer transferred her to San Francisco in 1977. She wandered into one of the early computer stores and bought one of the first Apple IIs. She was hooked.

"I had this wonderful idea to change my life," she says. "but I thought I was too late to get into the industry." She started working in a Computerland store for \$400 a month, then

People/Jean Yates of Yates Ventures

began writing about micros. "I discovered that my real niche was understanding where the technology was heading."

That led to a job with Gnostic Concepts, a well-known technology crystal-gazer. Two more years and she was managing all the company's microcomputer market research, discovering Unix along the way. Then Gnostic Concepts was taken over. "I was obnoxious, entrepreneurial, and I knew best."

In May 1982, with \$1500, she set up Yates Ventures in her living room. Turnover hit \$3m in the second year, \$4½m in the third. Now she has 25 people.

As though not quite able to grasp what she has achieved, she sometimes slips into the third person, implying it really all happened to somebody else. "My bank balance is fairly healthy, and we'll see if Jean can branch off into other areas," she says, outlining a scheme to invite housewives to test new software. She recognizes the possibility of failure, but distances herself from it. "Jean may fall on her face. We'll see."

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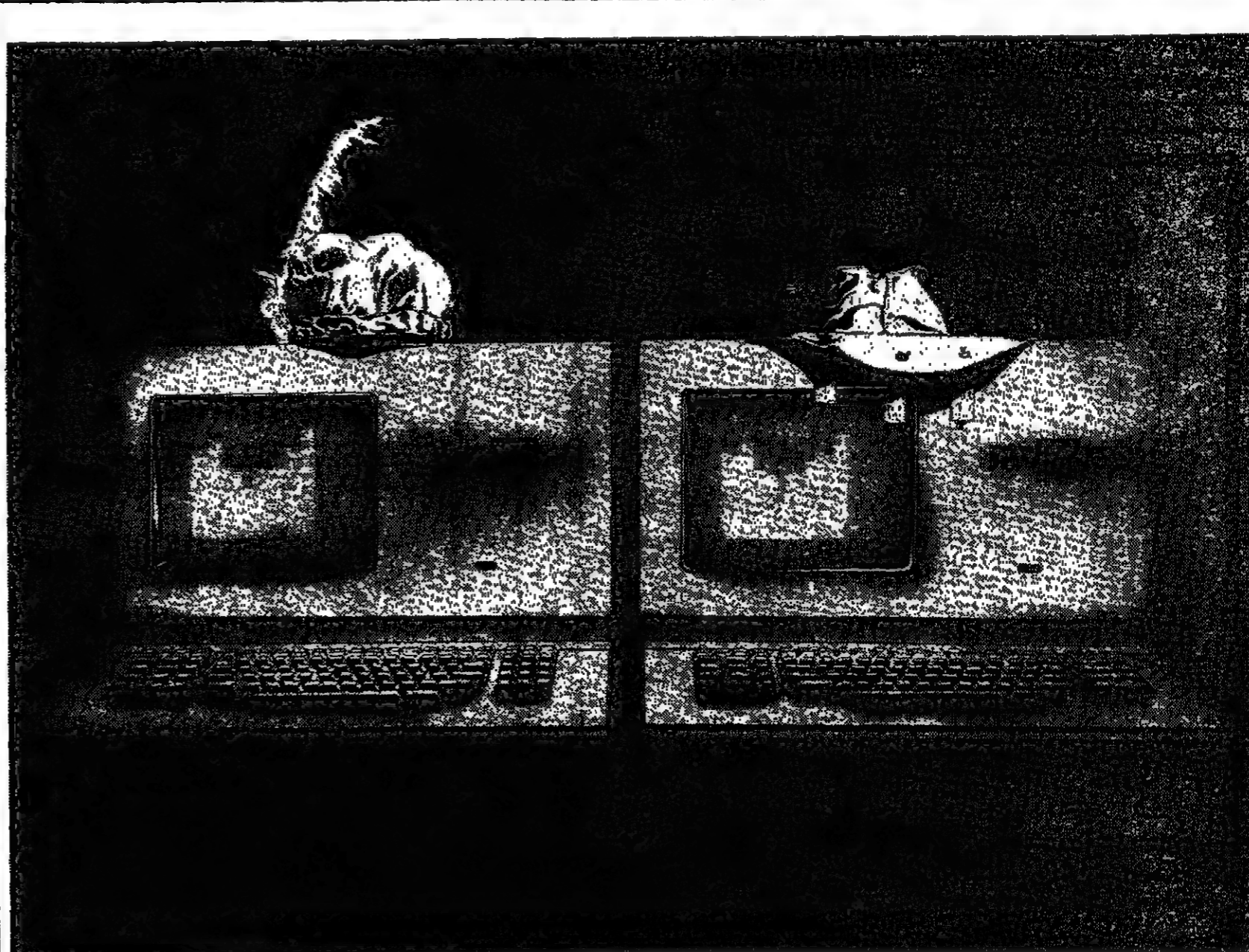
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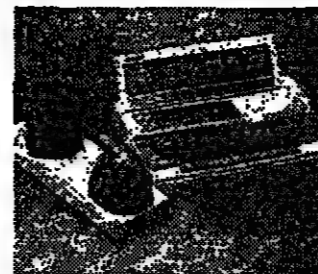
Computant

OK, so who will do the talking?

COMPUTER BRIEFING

Epson's new PX-8

Two years after the launch of its HX-20 portable computer, Epson has unveiled a new, more powerful portable, the PX-8. The size of an A4 pad, it contains 64K of RAM, weighs less than four pounds, has a full size qwerty keyboard, and runs under a version of CP/M. The screen is the now fashionable "pop-up" style, giving an LCD display of 80 characters and eight lines. It is being bundled with a suite of business software, including word processing.



Epson PX-8 with coupler

Amy system

A UK consortium, the Total Systems Group, has won a contract from the Ministry of Defence for a command and information system for the British Army. The consortium, which includes System Designers, Paceset and Software Sciences, will spend around six months on the study which will involve battlefield communications, computing and weapons technology. The contract is expected to be worth up to £400,000.

Plug compatible

BASF has announced a new IBM plug compatible computer, the 7/59. It uses 256K chips and offers a speed of up to three million instructions per second (MIPS). Availability starts at the end of the year and it is designed to operate with DOS, VM and MVS operating systems. BASF claims its prices are typically 20 per cent lower than those of IBM.

Lotus finances

Lotus Development Corporation has announced a net income of 7.5 million dollars for the first quarter of 1984, compared with 1.1 million dollars for the same period last year. Lotus produces 1-2-3 a popular integrated software package for micros. Net revenues have risen from 4.8 million dollars for the first quarter of 1983 to 28.3 million dollars for the same period this year.

Decision manager

Peacetrack Software has announced an integrated software product, Decision Manager. It combines a financial spreadsheet, word processor, communications data manager and graphics. Up to 20 different projects can be defined with a maximum of 10 displayed on the screen at any time. The package is aimed at users of the IBM PC-XT or PC users with a hard disc. It will be available from July and will cost £625.

Deal for Everyman

Formed only last year from a Belgian parent company, Vector International has succeeded in pulling off a substantial deal with IBM to market its Everyman database system through IBM channels. Under the agreement, the package, which was developed by Smallway of Surrey and currently runs in such diverse environments as the Royal Opera House, BP and the BBC, is the first European-developed product to gain international distribution by IBM. The contract, initially worth £500,000, could be enhanced considerably, says managing director Stewart O'Malley, with the establishment of its marketing operation in the USA, where it is seeking a similar arrangement with IBM.

African conference

The first African conference on computer communications, Africom, is being organized in Tunis from May 21-23 by the Tunisian Centre National de l'Informatique and the Tunisian Faculty of Science. The Rome-based Intergovernmental Bureau for Informatics says it will demonstrate at the conference IBINET, the IBM international data transmission network. Ibnet's purpose is to offer developing countries access to information on a cost-effective system and to enhance their dialogue with the industrialised countries.

Valid Chips

A brand-new "machine tool" - a super high-tech chip that is plugged in to a computer - has been launched by Valid Logic Systems. The device, called Valid "Reichip", can do 13 minutes of simulation in 2 seconds and handle half a million evaluations a second. Philip Smith, Valid director of sales in Europe, says: "This is a real chip. It is a new technology that has never been done before. It is extremely valuable to the computer industry because if the simulation can get a project right at the design stage, then all systems will work at later stages and there will be no design faults". Basic price: from £25,000.

Welsh floppy

The first floppy disk to be manufactured in Britain has been introduced by Control Data Wales. It plans to distribute the disks in high-street retail shops aimed at the home-computer user. Control Data Wales, Europe's largest and the world's second-largest magnetic media manufacturing plant, is based in Gwent. The new production means a further 100 jobs for the region.

PC shortage

The shortage in supplies of IBM Personal Computer, the PC, shows no sign of easing out of IBM's original plan, which limited dealers to 20 machines a month, has now been dropped. Instead, a percentage of forecast orders will be delivered as IBM has received many complaints from larger dealers claiming the fixed quota was unfair.

BBC Graduates

BBC B micro owners can now upgrade their computers into IBM PC compatible business machines according to Data Technologies of Cambridge. It has launched "The Graduate" - a system which offers either one or two disc drives, and plugs into the BBC's 1 Mhz bus. Prices start from £599.

Acorn stake

Acorn Computers, manufacturers of the BBC micro, has taken a 25 per cent stake in Torus Systems. Torus is to launch a graphics-controlled, local-area network, the IBM PC at the time of the launch. The product will integrate communications facilities, such as electronic mail, Prestel and telephone dialling, with networking facilities and applications software in an office automation system which is claimed to be highly user-friendly. It will use the Ethernet local area network.

Contributors John Earle, Geoffrey Ellis, Matthew May, Mark Stone.

UK Events

Computer, Business Systems & Communications Equipment Exhibition - Micro City, Bristol Exhibition Centre, Canons Road, City Centre, Bristol, May 15-17.
DEC User Show, Novotel Hotel, London, W8, May 15-17.
Walthamstow '84, Man Exhibition Hall, Waltham Forest Technical College, Forest Road, London E17, May 19.
RIBA Computer Exhibition, Bloomsbury Crest Hotel, Coram Street, London WC1, May 22-24.
Apple '84, Fulcrum Centre, Slough, May 24-26.
Office Automation Show, London Barbican, June 7-9.
5th International Commodore Show, Novotel Hotel, Hammersmith, London, W6, June 7-9.

Overseas

Compec Europe Centre International Rogier, Brussels, May 8-10.
International Computer Show for Office, Home, Hobby, Cologne, Germany, June 14-17.

Compiled by Personal Computer News

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Job Description

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Qualifications

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MARCOL

Poachers, gamekeepers and leaping the fence

By Richard Sharpe

There is a clear divide in the computer community between the vendor and the user. Both are dependent on each other but are wary of giving away too much to the other side. After all, the computer vendor that pours support into a user site and cuts the price to get the order will lose money. Equally, the computer department manager who pays over the odds for a mundane system is not serving the best interests of his employer.

There are, therefore, very few instances of the user, essentially the poacher in this tale, turning into the gamekeeper and joining the vendor.

The man who has been the best-known manager of a computer user department in the UK made that switch. Peter Hermon was head of data processing at British Airways. He had established the trend to replace IBM equipment with compatible kit made by another supplier and the trend of getting an independent company in to maintain the computers, leaving the vendor of the lucrative business of maintaining the equipment.

Having made these two moves for user independence, Hermon is now firmly in the seat of gamekeeper as the head of Tandem's UK operation. Tandem make a range of fault-tolerant computers.

JOB SCENE

Tandem used a head hunter to find Hermon, who was not brought in for his knowledge of the Tandem product line but because of his proven track record as a manager of a fast-growing operation which needs new management controls to make sure that the growth it achieves is profitable and manageable.

Quite a common route for the poacher-turned-gamekeeper is the data processing manager who uses a product and becomes convinced of its value. Such data processing managers tend to be used as reference sites by the vendor of the product and are even paraded around to other users as a marketing aid. Eventually someone realises that the user knows more about the product and can talk more convincingly to other users than the professional marketing team.

One such gamekeeper is Terry Booth, head of the US software vendor Cincom in the UK. Booth used Cincom's teleprocessing monitor when a user in the UK food industry joined Cincom as a result.

Some poachers would never turn into gamekeepers, whatever the size of salary on the other side of the fence. They get too much enjoyment from twiddling the nose of the rather stuffy sales representatives the main vendors seem to favour, making the signing of a contract a major event and doing so only after a long drawn out process of negotiation.

These dedicated user managers revel in their freedom to run down their vendor and wrong-foot the salesman in the belief that the game is as interesting as the outcome.

roup
cash



Artist's impression of the interior of the 40-seat capsule for the Toronto tour

All the fun of the universe

By Paul Walton

All the sensations of space travel are promised this year from an advanced computer simulation system. By the end of the decade a go-anywhere, do-anything 'simulator' could be available to the public - at a price.

'Tour of the Universe' is the first commercial ride of its kind, from Rediffusion Simulation. Two of these rides are due to begin at a Toronto theme park in the autumn. The 40-seat space module will voyage into the year 2019 as conceived by the American space agency, NASA, for 75 minutes.

A million-dollar film is being shot in Hollywood, using the same effects as films like 2001 and Close Encounter of the

Third Kind, to be viewed in-flight. Robert McCall, NASA's artist on the space programme, directs the visuals and a team of British science fiction writers is supplying the script.

After buying a 25-dollar ticket each 'crew-member' will be 'taught' basic space drill. There are things to do in space - the promoters are not saying precisely what. It might involve donning a space suit, but the technology cannot yet simulate weightlessness. Space voyagers will orbit Mars, Jupiter and the Asteroid belt - viewing film footage shot in space. Fictional satellites and space stations are also passed in flight before landing. Using technology which

simulates aircraft. Rediffusion Simulation now believes it can recreate any experience. Its first public simulator will be sold by Toronto-based Interactive Entertainment Inc.

The British might get a chance to take a tour if Rediffusion's parent, British Electric Traction, decides to install a simulator at its planned theme park at Corby. A 'rapid' reconfiguration multi-purpose personal experience simulator 'the size of a small car could cost around £350,000 to £500,000 before the end of the eighties. One day it could be possible to buy software to experience a bobsleigh ride one day, a racing car circuit the next.

The challenge ahead for Sir Michael

by Kevin Pearson

Today sees the start of negotiations between the ICL management and its unions about the annual pay claim. For Sir Michael Edwards, who took over the chairmanship of ICL a little over a month ago, it is likely to mark the start of an increasingly challenging time in his bid to steer the company into the forefront of information technology.

By his own admission two of his stumbling blocks come from inside the company: too low a productivity compared with other companies and, he claims, the wrong attitude. Externally, he faces the might and market domination of US giant IBM; and the threat of American Telephone & Telegraph, the US telecommunications company which dwarfs even IBM.

Sir Michael has been brought into ICL to provide the managerial trouble-shooting and strategic planning expertise he showed in getting British Leyland on the road back to profitability.

Initially a major part of Sir Michael's job will be to change the managerial structure of the

company and to make it more adaptable to the needs of a rapidly changing market. He is not the first senior executive to be brought into ICL to attempt these changes. Others who tried have failed, and that is partly why ICL found itself in such difficulties at the start of the 1980s.

The company's plight can be seen by a comparison with IBM UK. Five years ago the two were of broadly similar shape and size, with similar shares of the UK market. In 1983 IBM UK had a turnover of more than £1.6m, twice ICL's last reported annual turnover. Yet IBM employs only about 16,000 people in the UK; ICL has a workforce of more than 22,500. It is not an entirely fair comparison as IBM is a worldwide organization but it does illustrate the scale of Sir Michael's problems.

There was speculation of a potential conflict between Sir Michael and ICL managing director Robb Wilmot, when Sir Michael's appointment was announced. Both have been keen to play it down. Wilmot is responsible for ICL's overall operations - from product strategy, development, through production to marketing and sales, says Sir Michael.

Much of the product and market strategy is already in place, from the joint development links with Fujitsu of Japan, and Canadian telecommunications manufacturer Mitel to the recently announced network services division and the joint plan with 12 other leading information technology companies - but not IBM - to promote international open systems standards for linking computers. ICL is pinning a lot of its hopes on open standards.

In the past ICL has been criticized for being, or trying to be, a mini IBM by offering products to compete in each area with those of the industry leader. That still holds true today. ICL has products to compete with IBM right across the line, from micros to mainframes - it even markets a large mainframe, built by Fujitsu, which runs IBM programs. But it has not been successful in this venture as it has sold only four systems in two years against projected sales of 12 in the first year.

What Mr Wilmot has done is collaborate in developing products, rather than doing it internally. Fujitsu, for example, is developing two mainframe systems for ICL. They will be compatible with the current 2900 series computers and will provide a much needed boost to that product line.

Large scale systems still account for about 40 per cent of ICL's overall business. And the systems being developed by Fujitsu, a medium sized computer, code named the DM 1, and the larger Estriel, will undoubtedly help to sustain this sector of the company's business. But is unlikely that they will help ICL capture a larger slice of the mainframe market, despite independent estimates that growth in this sector is averaging around 40 per cent a year.

Most of that growth is in the IBM part - its share having risen for 75 per cent of the top end market to 90 per cent in the last four years. Its rivals in the mainframe market have stood still in absolute terms, while their market shares have fallen.

ICL's product strategy looks good on paper, but the question is whether it will take ICL forward to the rewards available in the still burgeoning information technology marketplace. There are those who, while wishing ICL every success, feel it may be too late. The company is adapting fast, but it still has the legacy of the 1970s to overcome.

A chance to join in the puzzle books

Times Books and Sidgwick & Jackson will be publishing two new books on September 30 - *The Times Book of Computer Puzzles and Games for the Commodore 64* and *The Times Book of Computer Puzzles and Games for the Sinclair Spectrum*. These books will contain stimulating and challenging games and puzzles which can be played and solved using a Commodore 64 or Sinclair Spectrum.

Readers are invited to submit their own games and puzzles for inclusion. A panel of well-known personalities within the computer industry will judge the best submissions. There will be two first prizes of an Epson HX-20 portable computer and five second prizes of a Maplin Modern for the games or puzzles considered by the judges to be the most stimulating and original.

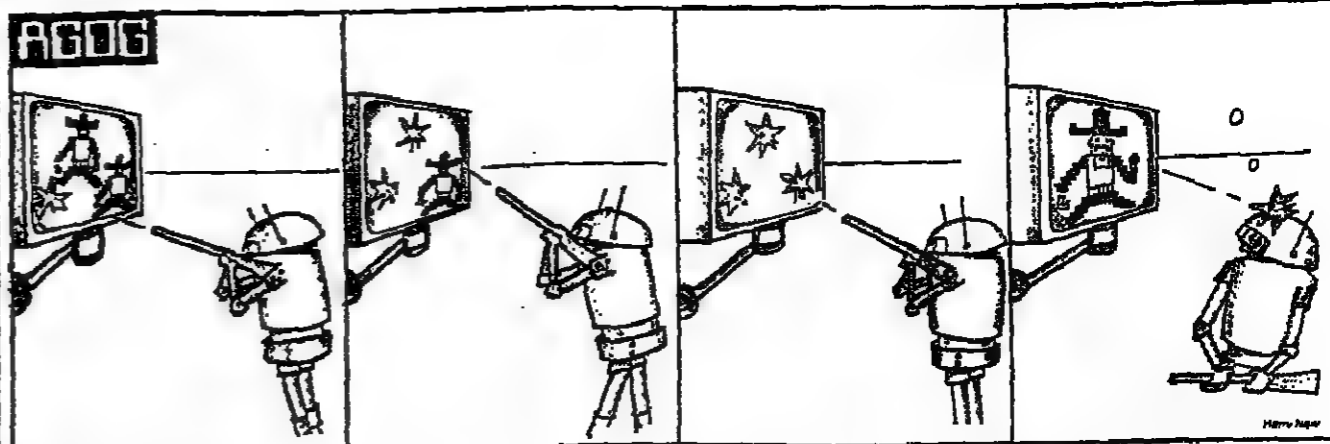
All other readers whose submissions are included will receive a £10 W. H. Smith gift voucher and their names as authors will be published alongside their program.

Readers who wish to submit their entries should: Send the program listing, written in BASIC (not machine code), preferably on a cassette, to the address below:

Include a short synopsis of the object of the game or puzzle, a brief description of what should happen when the program is run and an indication of level of difficulty.

All entries, which will be acknowledged, must be received by June 30. Those entries included in the books will carry the names of the authors and retain their copyright. Please send your entry to:

● The Times Book of Computer Puzzles and Games, c/o Newtch Publishing Limited, 8 Forge Court, Reading Road, Yateley, Camberley, Surrey GU17 7RX.



Is compuspeak doomed?

By Richard Sarson

Many lay people object strongly to the jargon used by people employed in the computer industry to describe their wares. Such words as 'digital', 'parameter', 'file', 'mode', 'bit' and 'random access', repel ordinary human beings. They look like English, but they do not have the same meanings as the words listed in the Oxford English Dictionary.

They are usually combined in curious ways, like 'print file', 'control file', 'file structure'. The main difficulty is that there is no way of knowing what part of speech the words are. Are 'control' and 'file' verbs or nouns? Without the specialist's insight, the layman loses his way, and consequently tends to lose patience with the whole computer scene.

Orwell prophesied that we would all be talking newspeak. Instead, what we have is compuspeak, the amalgamation of technical, commercial and managerial jargons spoken by computer people. Compuspeak resembles newspeak in some rather sinister ways.

The purpose of newspeak was 'to provide a medium of expression for the world-view and mental habits' of the Inner and Outer Parties of Ingsoe (English - Socialism), and to make 'all other modes of thought impossible'.

Compuspeak, the jargon of computer professionals, is similarly elitist, and, similarly, tends to linguistic imperialism.

Compuspeak, the jargon of computer professionals, is similarly elitist, and, the tendency among computer people to liken the whole of life to the workings of a computer system and consequently to reduce all language to Compuspeak, is linguistic imperialism. Compuspeak attempts to invade and colonize English.

It is inevitable and right that some compuspeak will rub off on English, as the Raj brought bungalow and calico into the language. 'Debug', for instance, (to correct a program) is splendidly punchy, direct and graphic. But computer people should not be the arbiters of the language.

This is a particularly important moment to check the pretensions of Compuspeak. Advances in artificial intelligence are bringing computing up against neurology, psychology and philosophy.

Brash young computer people can reduce their interchanges with psychologists and philosophers to total incoherence, if they insist on imposing their outlandish new dialect. They must learn to pick their words with care.

Fortunately there is within the computer industry itself a corrective to the worst excesses of the compuspeakers. In that the explosive growth of the industry is making it less elitist. In the past it was computer professionals who made the

decisions to buy the large mainframes and minis while computer hobbyists and engineers bought the first generations of micros. Now, however, it will be laymen who make the decisions to buy the computers of the future. Car drivers no longer have to be motor mechanics and similarly, computer-users will have neither the interest nor aptitude in the mental gyrations that make a good computer-man. To them computers will be tools and the less they are wrapped up in mumbo-jumbo the more saleable they will be.

To respond to this new market force the designers of the more advanced software for micros are rejecting the technical sounding compuspeak vocabulary and replacing it with one which bears more resemblance to English. 'Tools' have replaced 'programs', and 'documents' have replaced 'data files'. The designers are at last trying to demystify and de-skill the computer by anglicizing the language of computers.

So in its search for mass-markets the computer industry may make a welcome return to English leaving compuspeak as a Mandarin language for academics. This would be no loss as compuspeak is an inelegant and imprecise language, surprising considering it describes machines which should be by their nature both elegant and precise.

New micro for small business

By Matthew May

WH SMITH is to sell a new small business and personal computer - the Advance 86 - developed by a company based in North London.

Such is the confidence of the high street retailer in this British micro that it is to drop the well-known Apple IIe from its stores.

The Advance, which is being manufactured by Ferranti, comes in two versions. The business version, the 86B, comes with two disc drives and four programs.

Of particular interest is the claim that the 86B will run virtually all of the vast amount of software available for the IBM PC without change.

Other manufacturers' micros which claim to run IBM PC software vary greatly in how compatible they really are. If the 86B is fully compatible it will be a strong contender in the PC compatible market as it costs only £1500, more than £1000 cheaper than its IBM rival.

WH Smith will also be selling a £300 version of the Advance which offers 128k of memory and works with a domestic tape recorder. It has an exclusive deal on the sale of the computer and has ordered £2 million worth from Ferranti. The decision to drop the Apple IIe was prompted by disappointing sales the company stated.

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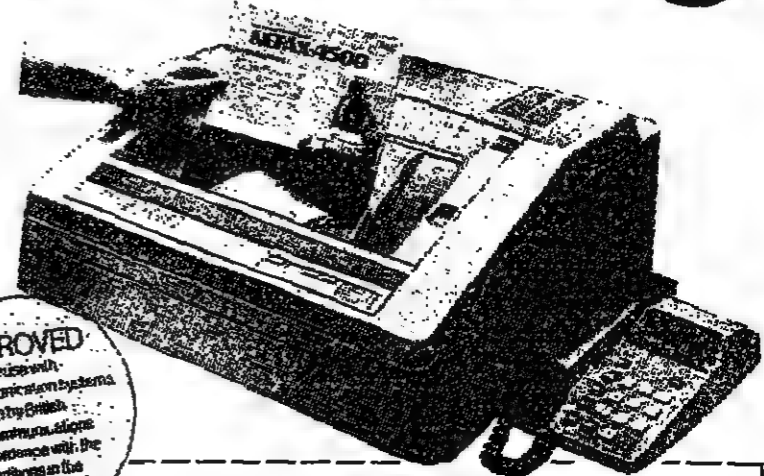
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FOOTBALL

By John Chesley

WALTON COMPETITIVENESS The section his car held just six litres of fuel out of the 216 litres with which it had started the race. The winning McLaren had 12 litres in a tank with a capacity of 215, while René Arnoux's Ferrari, which had also been driven conservatively during the second half of the race, had nine litres left of its 214 capacity.

MOTOR CYCLING

**From Richard Eaton
Kuala Lumpur**

THOMAS CUP (Men): Group A: Malaysia bt Japan 5-0. Group B: Germany bt Sweden 4-1.

Eddie Lawson's second grand prix victory, and Freddie Spencer's second missed race, in Spain on Sunday, has turned the 500cc world championship from a foregone conclusion to a potentially protracted battle.

iders splitting the pair. Lawson seems as superior to the rest as Spencer is to him. Ron Haslam and Randy Mamola, the Honda works riders, are on last year's machines and lack speed. Lawson's Yamaha team-mate, Virginio Ferrari, broke his leg in practice in Spain, and in the race, he had not shown good

FISHING

what we, in the generic use of the word, have done to their rivers. Many of the founding fathers fished streams to the north of London in Hertfordshire and some in the south, one being the Wandle, where Malford first fished the dry fly,

FISHING

would be grateful to dematerialize themselves as soon as possible and return home. The gap of a 100 years may be too great for anyone to cross. All the same they would be glad they had been remembered.

Nadia at her zenith: the symmetric schoolgirl earning 10 out of 10 at Montreal

By Peter Aykroyd

Rugby-pub sevens: A day The Star in the

Rugby-pub sevens: A day The Star in the west shone bright

If I may adapt the opening remarks of P G Wodehouse in "The Clicking of Cuthbert", this report is different from all my other reports, for it is written in blood. I went, not as a reporter,

number of familiar Gloucester faces. We at the start, High Littleton, entered hesitantly for this competition, for High Littleton is a village without a rugby team. However, there are several good local clubs in the area with members who have the good sense to drink

The only player who was not precisely local has spent a lot of time in the village, and qualified by dubious means. It was the first time

The ultimate winners, not that I was watching by that time, were York House, who beat Adam and Eve in the final by 38 points. They had beaten us by only 14.

Alan Gibson

WORLD FOOTBALL
Brian Glanville

Hansi Müller, the Internazionale (Milan) inside-left, but he just does not want to play for Derwall. He is still smarting from public criticisms. Derwall was ill advised enough to make of him when he came to Milan to see him play in the city

League and Cup results overseas

Another 67 brings Watson title

IN BRIEF

Another 67 brings Watson title

appearance of Britain's leading dressage horse, Dutch Courage, in the second Olympic selection trial at Addington, quelled any doubts as to his well-being and right to a passage to Los Angeles. Ridden by Jennie Loriston-Clarke, he won comfortably.

RESULTS: 1, Dutch Courage (Jennie Loriston-Clouston), 225; 2, *Wahine* (John Smith), 223.

YACHTING: A force 5-6 northeasterly and a nasty sea in Dovercourt Bay, off Harwich, caused the cancellation of the final

caused the cancellation of the final race in the Dragons east coast

● Perth (AP) - Japan will challenge for the 1987 America's Cup. The Tokyo Ocean Yacht Club has submitted a late application, bringing the number of entries to 24

ATHLETICS

Protests gathering over Miss Budd

By Pat Butcher

British Amateur Athletic Board's action in accepting Miss Budd as British athlete, when it is still unclear whether she is simply using the Union Jack as an Olympic flag of convenience, it seems that her retention of South African nationality, to go with her new British one.

Good news from top coach

effects. "I do not think there will be any problem," Lydiard says. "I have been in Los Angeles for the last two summers, and I have run at that time, in the late afternoon, every day of the week. I haven't tasted any smog, and what is more, unlike the women, the men will be running out of the heat of the day, instead of into

the most powerful of the selectors, since Boston. There is certainly some bad feeling about Smith not running in London, but he has final examinations at a college near Boston.

Norman said, at the recent national road relay in Birmingham, that Smith is unlikely to be selected.

that Smith is unlikely to be selected, because "he is not a winner". That is a view contradicted by Alan Storey, the national marathon coach, and *all* of Smith's peers at the relay.

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Ronald V. Gowers, Legal Adviser,
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